

SEVEN DAYS

WINTER'S INDEPENDENT VOICE DECEMBER 02-09 2003 VOL. 16 NO. 15 SEVENDAYSVT.COM

Censored!
The top 10 stories mainstream media ignored or underreported over the past year
BY REBECCA BOWEN
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Filmmaker John Waters talks tinsel

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A TD survey for Norwich cadets

BIKER BABE PAGE 16
Liz Robert pedals a new biz in VT


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Shackles Vornholt: Got blood? If
you don't just use part of it, you can
move up to three levels. Bro Redberger
headed to the Red Cross Blood Donor
Center on the day after Thanksgiving
to find out who gives and who



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SATURDAY 5

The Metamorphosis

It is a clever item talking art product (see *The Memento of Theology of New School*), reproduces a celebrated writer (the writer of the *Caribbean*), and is a slick thing in print. **The Very Hungry Caterpillar** & **Other Favorites** is a soft page in a vibrant, colorful performance, and the educational aspect is to be seen.

SEE CALHOUN SPOTLIGHT
ON PAGE 12

- TUESDAY 9 - THURSDAY 10

Wonderful Wizards of Sound

Sixty-plus years after Capra, **It's a Wonderful Life** hit the silver screen. Lost. Not on Theater offered us fresh take on George Bailey's tale: a behind-the-scenes slanted indie play. Here, too, just a rendering, a filmic insult around warring naïf-heroes while's court effects expert, mystic facepots, faking snow and more. If that's not to be great, with some classic, better, a little?

DISCLAIMER: PHOTOGRAPH ON PAGE 18



SATURDAY 5

Slide On!

Nearest mancoy diets spread they can take the heat and the heat in Saturday's **Club Polar Skate**. The offer, which looks like a cost-effective drive for the Lund Family Center, now up with the skaters and December ride and finishes with a spicy anti-frosty-judgy one coast. If you need to even a flavor for the winter, you'll catch an exclusive "Biker Club" appearance. No, no, no.

THESE CHALLENGES ARE LEFT FOR THE READER TO FACE



FRIDAY 4
Cushy Seat

In 2005, *Seventy-Nine* then music critic Ethna Conry wrote of *The Duck's* September release, "I'my e-e while you've got a-m Durlington, because this band is destined for bigger things." Their grand idea was to still lucky enough to solve them in time. Husband-wife jangle-pop indie-rockers Sunsets and Graciele Douglas unveil their latest CD, *Between the Leaves*, this week.

SEE HARBORLAND REVIEW ON PAGE 36

FRIDAY 4
Do a Little Dance

Supporters of Rachel's River Birch School can express their enthusiasm this week by putting on their dance shoes. Following a fall festival and concert, our dance-loving trio is presenting a fall dance school. The event is co-sponsored by the local dance community and the local dance school. The event is co-sponsored by the local dance community and the local dance school. The event is co-sponsored by the local dance community and the local dance school.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 61

ONSCREEN
Frankenstein's Monsters?

6

Though most of us look a little better than the creature of Mary Shelley's famous novel, these robots draw in least metaphorical parallel in the *Reinhold* Gilroy's parent ice-hat's *"Medicine & Mortality"*. With modern tools and technology pressing us every day, Linda E. Jones, Suzanne L. and Nathan of *Peter* humans on their invasion into battle through provocative sculpture, manuscript and portraits. A little more inquiry.

SEE OFF BATTERY REVIEW ON PAGE 70

FRIDAY 4
Meet My Folks

If your image of groove lies somewhere between quiet ballads and upbeat folk of folk *Josh Rattiner* go to 2PM and meet him up. Inspired by Bob Dylan, Johnny Cash and Green Springsteen, this folk-rockers with five albums to his name boasts not only refined but consider such topics as the state of the nation, the underclass and *Joan of Arc*. It's a really something for everyone.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 62

everything else...

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FAIR GAME | Open session on Vermont politics BY SHIRT TOTTER

The More the Merrier

Park course to share this week for Mayor **MICHAEL KISS** and State Auditor **THOMAS SHAWHAN** — two politicos near and dear to the columnist.

As for in news gear, they just keep on going.

On Thursday, Mayor Kiss and his administration will provide the city council with more information regarding Burlington Telecom's proposed refinancing. The mayor hopes this will ease any council concerns.

Good luck with that. Watching the administration explore BT's finances to the council is like watching a game of three-card monte. You're never sure what's happening when.

The council has been frustrated by the administration's lack of candor about BT's finances and has stalled efforts to refinance or sell the debt until more details are supplied.

Councilor **SHAWHAN** (D Ward 1) went to see Mayor Kiss and State Auditor **SHAWHAN** to discuss the \$250,000 for the council to finance BT.

Kiss has yet to respond to Auditor's request. Shuhar.

Kiss has met with several councilors over the past two weeks about the best way to handle BT's financial information. He's trying to get some ground rules.

The administration stance is concerned that some councilors might share confidential information to the media and political staffers. City Attorney **NEWBERRY** believes this violates city council rules regarding documents distributed in executive sessions. The Democrats' attorney disagrees, and claims council rules extend to kernel council staff.

That may be why a key document requested for review — BT's financial pro forma and foundation of its current business model — can only be viewed in Leopold's office. Councilors are forbidden from taking notes or taking it home to read.

Among current councilors, it's believed that only **DAVID PEARL** (D Ward 6) and **SHAWHAN** (D Ward 1) have seen the document.

"It's not that we have refused access to information, it's that we've tried to

control the dissemination of information," said **CITY ATTORNEY NEWBERRY**.

In other words you can see the after action, so long as you are at their mercy.

By Friday, the city is also obligated to respond to 124 questions from the Department of Public Service, which is investigating BT's violations of its certificate of public good.

The city is likely to face more questions, depending on how it responds to this first round of inquiry and DPS Commissioner **DAVID STEINER**.

Bottom line: The state wants to know how — and why — BT has been a problem.

IT'S NOT THAT WE HAVE REFUSED ACCESS TO INFORMATION, IT'S THAT WE'VE TRIED TO CONTROL THE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.

BURLINGTON CAG JONATHAN LEOPOLD

leap out from city coffers, and if it's relying on the city's credit rating to secure outside financing. The state believes BT shouldn't rely on any public funds to stand on its own and its questions are indicative of that stance.

Stealing talk as it may be a long, cold winter for Burlington Telecom.

Pay It Forward

State Auditor **THOMAS SHAWHAN** will face Vermont District Court Judge **SHAWHAN** on Thursday, when he's expected to plead guilty to a DUI charge.

Shuhar issued an arrest warrant to the media after last week's "Fair Game" column, in which we reported how a \$40,000 check issued last to default on nearly \$200,000 in credit card and loan debt.

Shuhar said it was all part of our big financial bust-out.

"A leveraged stock account combined with high loan growth, school loans and other debt made the credit so precious," Shuhar revealed in a written statement. "There was no price next egg a small fish. The investment was borrowed money." Shuhar has since repaid all the money he owed, the last just past a month after he was sworn into his first term as auditor in 2007.

It's unclear whether his past financial

troubles and DUI will have a political impact. No one has yet emerged to challenge him in next fall.

"We've just begun to reach out to our folks and supporters to find someone, as it's only been a couple of months since he switched parties, and we no longer had a Democratic auditor," said Democratic Party Executive Director **ROBERT CHAPMAN**.

There find the Dems found five candidates for governor with little effort, so they thought they'd be able to find one for auditor.

Primary Colors

Rearcar driver and construction company owner **POL SCOTT** (D Washington) announced Tuesday he will seek the GOP nomination to succeed outgoing Lt. Gov. **DAVID COOPER**.

Scott told "Fair Game" he believes both the right man for the job.

"I think I can be a voice for so many different people," said Scott.

Scott's announced came one day after his **ANDY BROWN** (R Franklin) announced he would not seek the post. Lake Rock, Sen. **ANDREW MALLIN** (R Rutland) is also seeking reelection instead of the legislature.

Sen. **WILLIAM MALLIN** (R Essex/Oxford) said he would wait until after the legislative session to determine if he'll run for his job. Also potentially in the running is former Rutland County Executive **JAMES MURPHY**.

Thoroughly other confirmed GOP candidate is **MARK SWELLING**, son of former Gov. **FRANK SWELLING**.

On the Democratic side, Rep. **ARVID HARRIS** (D Rutland) is considering a run, as are State Sen. **VERNONA SHAW** and **DEAN HARRIS**, both of Chittenden County.

Rep. **DAVID JACKSON** (D Burlington) is beginning to meet with Democratic county commission as he builds a bid for his second governor as a Democrat.

But the governor could face a primary. Peace activist, horse breeder and longtime Lake Umbagog candidate **DAVID MARCHAND** announced he will run for his job as a Progressive.

Who will run for Scott's seat next?

Per se, Washington County Progressive, and some Democrats, have encouraged **ANDREW MALLIN** to run for

senate. Think of it: After several high profile, losing bids for statewide office, Peltus could actually run and win?

Stuck in the Middle

Until thing US Sen. **MARK ROSS** (D) has more than \$2.5 million in his campaign war chest and keeps raising more dough. He's got out just one but two challenges.

In Monday, Woodstock business owner and state legislator **Vernon** introduced his **SENATE** introduced his challenge to Ross in serving the 20th senate district to challenge Leaky. In October, **Donner** and Mary captain **CAROL FRENCH** launched his challenge to Leaky — as a Democrat.

Leaky, first elected in 1978, brings more millions of dollars in federal "pork" and is the third longest-serving Democrat in the US Senate. He chairs the highway committee and is the second-most senior Democrat on the Senate Appropriations Committee.

It had to be a politician in Vermont without feeling like you're in Leaky's shadow.

When I set down with **Donner** at Burlington's **Mark & Cafe**, the two of us couldn't help but admire the politician view of **Lake Champlain** and then, **Leaky** Center for Lake Champlain.

In November, he'll be in a "John Republic" — a fiscally conservative but socially moderate. Yes, that means he's pro-choice.

"Vermont has a history of sending common sense, moderate Republicans to Washington," said **Donner**, who and D.C. Republicans are to blame as well. "Thanks a point when you're in a hole that you're supposed to be digging."

"Congress is printing money, selling our debt to China and adding our children with the debt," said **Donner**, who and D.C. Republicans are to blame as well. "Thanks a point when you're in a hole that you're supposed to be digging."

Of course, you're breaking ground on a new building named after a senator, right?

Single-Prayer Slog?

Vermont's Independent Sen. **MARK SARRIS**, a major supporter of single prayer kiosk, one, is being denied by a single prayer advocate.

These bills that Senators in all about and no show. Advocates want **Senators** to vote against the current bills to version of health care reform unless it creates a single prayer system.

Senators won't say if it'll vote against

a final bill if it lacks a public option. In part, that's because the bill quadruples the number of Federally Qualified Health Centers, something **Senators** has fought for as a legislator.

The plan to introduce a strike all single prayer amendment that's expected to generate only a handful of votes.

"He is much more optimistic about a provision in the Senate version of the bill that would provide the necessary waivers to allow states to set a single prayer system," said **MARK SARRIS**, a Senator who has been

One, I wonder what state **Senators** has in mind?

Seat at the Table

While high society gals rub shoulders at the headlines from last week's state dinner at the White House, **SENATOR** **DEBORAH FUNDRAISING** AND **ACTIVIST JANE** AND **BILL STEVENSON** of **Mountain** was among the event's 400 legitimate guests.

The dinner — hosted by **First Lady MICHIGAN GRUBER** under a star on the South Lawn — was a honor of visiting Indian Prime Minister **MANMOHAN SINGH**.

"It was a very interesting dinner," said **Bill Stevenson**. "It was a total cross-section of the country — a lot of regular folks, even community organizers. These were not all multi-millionaires or cabinet members."

Bill served on the Obama campaign as an environmental adviser — a position he's held for every Democratic nominee since **BARACK OBAMA**. Jane also has a high ranking position as the **Finance Chairwoman** of the **Democratic National Committee**.

The couple raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for Obama, including a fundraiser they hosted at their Vermont home that netted more than \$150,000.

Corrections

A couple of corrections to recent columns. **THE PARLIAMENT** is the governor of Wisconsin, not Wisconsin, and **JAN HARRIS** is the stand-in speaker for Mayor Kim on Vets Day, has not yet been granted conscientious objector status.

- 1. Last week I'd mentioned for the "Find Your Spirit" event was **MTV**, **News Channel** and **TV Land** nights during the 11 p.m. weekend for a preview.
- 2. Follow **Shay** on **Twitter** — <http://twitter.com/shayshay>
- 3. Become a fan on Facebook: facebook.com/vermontshayshay
- 4. Grand **Shay** on **Facebook** and **Twitter** (<http://www.facebook.com/shayshay>)

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"Independent Contractor" or Employee? The Difference Could Mean \$2.6 Million for the State's Unemployment Fund

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

The Vermont Department of Labor is cracking down on businesses it suspects of evading unemployment tax payments by misclassifying workers as independent contractors. An investigation of *Leaves Design*, focused on the employment status of its weekly distribution drivers, is under appeal.

At issue is whether targeted companies should be required to make payments into the state unemployment insurance fund for individuals who work on the payroll — self-employed "1099" workers who get paid for their services, often by multiple companies, and assume responsibility for their own tax payments. These businesses are also being investigated for workers' compensation coverage. In the case of *Leaves Design*, the contested workers are delivery people who drop bundles of trees and other products around the state — usually just one day per week.

Until recently, the controversy had centered on the construction industry, which relies heavily on contractors who work on projects for a limited time. State Labor Commissioner Patrick Madonia Peadar, says, however, that misclassification of workers appears to be "widespread across many sectors. Construction got caught up," she adds, "but the problem isn't limited to that."

Battle Ground chooses to take under scrutiny in several states. In June, Vermont Attorney General William Sorrell joined seven AEs around the country in calling on Netflix to cooperate with reviews that could lead to reclassification of directors that the company now lists as independent contractors. A month before the auditions from

Sorrell and the other attorneys general, a federal appeals court reversed a National Labor Relations Board ruling that certain *Netflix* workers should be classified as company employees.

Is it always to workers' advantage to be on payroll? Many independent contractors like the freedom such work affords them, and there are tax benefits to being "self-employed." They can deduct your home office, mileage and education on federal tax returns, for example.

But not all self-employed workers have chosen to work as contractors. In recent years, many companies have laid off workers only to rehire them as freelancers. These businesses save money when they don't need to provide benefits or make payments on



Patricia Madonia Peadar

BUSINESS

The Labor Department further projects that an additional \$1.6 million in unemployment insurance taxes could be collected from Vermont companies if all their illegally misclassified workers were reclassified employees. The Douglas administration calculates, however, that the Labor Department would have to hire 17 more investigators, at an estimated cost of \$1 million, to collect this money tax dollars.

Earlier this year, the Vermont legislature approved a funding measure that allowed the Labor Department to hire three investigators to supplement the 10 field workers who conduct random checks of workers' status regarding unemployment and workers' compensation coverage. Rick Ray, Vermont's Executive Chair of the House Commerce and Economic Development Committee, says that, given the size of the state deficit, the legislature is looking at "all ways of raising revenue" — including the possible hiring of more Labor Department investigators.

Pressure is especially intense to help out the state's unemployment insurance fund, which could run out of money in two months. Madonia Peadar acknowledges that additional tax collections would be welcome, but she says the main goal of the new round of investigations isn't to force the fast but to "level the playing field." The labor commissioner expects that "if Company A is following the rules for classifying workers, and Company B is not, then Company B is outbidding its competitor because it's saving money on taxes that it should be paying."

Many of the Vermont businesses believed to be misclassifying workers are not doing it intentionally, Deputy Commissioner Denise

PRESSURE IS ESPECIALLY INTENSE TO BAIL OUT THE STATE'S UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUND, WHICH COULD RUN OUT OF MONEY IN TWO MONTHS.

the state labor force, hold more than one job in 2017. Otherwise, an average of

22 percent of workers have multiple jobs, Andy Condon, chief information officer for the Vermont Labor Department, says many of the misclassifying Vermonters are newly work as independent contractors, but the state has no way of tracking their numbers.

The question is, are Vermont businesses correct in classifying certain workers as "free agents"? Deputy Labor Commissioner Tim Dougan says projections made on the basis of data for unemployment insurance coverage suggest that as many as 14 percent of businesses in the state misclassify one or more workers as independent contractors.

unemployment and workers' compensation insurance. And the former employees are left without those protections.

It's estimated that up to one-quarter of the U.S. workforce is now self-employed. Earlier this year, Time magazine cited projections that by 2020 as many as 63 percent of American workers will be operating as independent contractors.

Vermont officials have no estimate of the number of workers in the state who currently fall into the independent contractor category. The federal government says more than 32,000 businesses, or 14 percent of

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Could Terry Bicycles Be the Next Burton Snowboards?

BY LAUREN OBER

After more than a decade of leading Angello staffed weekends at Vermont Teddy Bear Company, Lisa Robert, the company's former "Chief Bear Officer," is pushing, or, peddling a new product. The 46-year-old businesswoman and recreational cyclist recently bought Terry Precision Cycling, a women's bicycle and apparel company. By the end of December she will have moved the company to Burlington from a suburb of Burlington, N.Y., where it's been located since Georgia Terry founded it 25 years ago.

company in product and will also promote the bicycle side of the business.

One of Robert's first executive decisions was to move the company to Burlington. She's banking on the state's reputation as an outdoor enthusiast's playground to add value to the Terry brand.

Plenty of outdoor recreation camps are already full. Vermont camps, including Burton, Bromley, Bear, Deer, Tangle, Doves and two others have left — Tables, Snowshoes and Mud Run. Camps, as well as the U.S. office of Kona, Col. and Kona, Colo. — but then departures haven't diminished the state's collective passion for the outdoors. According to a 2008 survey of the Vermont outdoor community by the Outdoor Industry Association, 29 percent of Vermonters bike regularly. And, as more people commute by bicycle, that percentage is likely to grow.

All of which is why Robert is so excited by Terry's mission to "put more women's bikes on bikes."

What Terry will gain is not letting out but more than makes up for the fact that Burlington happens to be a prime place to do business. Lisa Robert's plans to use the Vermont brand to sell Terry products dovetail with the chamber's mission of selling the state's scenic lifestyle. "It has the sense of selling the company belongs in Vermont because this is what Vermont is and this is what we make," Bishop says.

While Terry will only employ about 10 to 15 people, it's the perfect sized business

for the mix, says Vermont Chamber of Commerce executive director Denise Bishop. Lisa Robert's plans to use the Vermont brand to sell Terry products dovetail with the chamber's mission of selling the state's scenic lifestyle. "It has the sense of selling the company belongs in Vermont because this is what Vermont is and this is what we make," Bishop says.

Though Robert looked at other Vermont businesses for the company, she ultimately settled on Burlington for the city's entrepreneurial spirit. Robert calls Burlington "the greatest fit for post consumer products," noting that globally successful companies such as Ben & Jerry's, Burton and Vermont Teddy Bear all got their start in the Green City.

Terry's proximity to Zeger Brothers Krimp Design can't hurt, either. The company will be housed inside the Maple Street Inn that has helped create local tourism and product lines for Nike, Under Armour and Burton. And

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Under the leadership of Terry, a machine oil engineer with a passion for home building, the company has earned recognition in the cycling community as a female friendly brand. Terry, 40, processes women specific saddle bags and built-in bra inserts to fit female anatomy. Bishop heavily is direct marketing, the company typically sent out about two million catalogs a year.

But Terry Precision Cycling began to founder as larger cycling companies started offering more options for women. Georgia Terry never wanted to be a CEO — she just wanted to build bikes and components — and as the industry became more competitive, the company needed new leadership, Robert says.

Robert was dismissed as CEO of Vermont Teddy Bear in the sales 2008 over disputes with the parent equity firm that owned the majority of the company in May, after exploring other potential business options, Robert bought the majority of Terry's vacation stock, making her the owner and CEO. Georgia Terry will remain with the

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Burlington Goldsmith Builds a Gem of a Studio

BY PAMELA POLSTON

When she was little, KRISTIN ALLEE loved to play "jewelry store." She doesn't have to pretend anymore. Last year, she married Vermont jewelry designer JACOB ALLEE and has been managing his burgeoning business, both locally and at high-end craft fairs around the region. This work, the couple opens a new studio/gallery in Burlington called simply **JACOB ALLEE GOLDSMITH** and celebrates with a reception for the public on Friday, December 6.

What visitors will see are the cheerful, two-story quarters in a renovated building Jacob once leased from longtime owner **HENRY STODOLAN** on Lower Main Street, tucked between the Waterfront Diving Center and Agnet De Pook Kamp Design. It is not a retail outlet. — **JACOB** BMW motorcycle parked just outside the front door is the first clue — but a working studio that will welcome customers by appointment. Despite her beloved childhood faerie, Kristin, now 32, and Jacob, 35, are not ready to be tied to the daily responsibilities of a store. "We're on the road a lot," she says, adding, "The diamonds could be real if we ever decide we want to go there."

For his part, Jacob is thrilled — and a little intimidated — that he gets to put aside jewelry while Kristin handles "everything else." And, he protests, "I get to hang out with my wife. I'd honestly be the luckiest man I know."

Visitors on Friday will also see, of course, a display of Jacob's singular pieces, most crafted from gold, gems and raw materials. Yes, rock that he dug from the quarry to South, specifically. Jacob has shelves of one that he made while in new Zealand's between 16 and 20 thousand years ago, he says. It was "discovered" — by Europeans — in 1820.

Two years ago the New Zealand government stopped exporting the stuff, Jacob notes, "so the price tripled." But the meteorite is an ordinary rock; its dull gray surface is etched with unique crystalline patterns. Allee says he finds it "totally compelling" — unbelieveably so — even if thinking how old it is and where it came from. In jewelry, meteorite pieces recently sold with gold (Althea's 100 percent recycled) — particularly when speckled with any diamonds — as an exquisite splinter such as the trillion-cut pavé crown, he's set in a signature ring or a strand of ingeniously chainless blue-gem lab-grown diamonds.

The contrasting textures suit Allee's sensibility: a unique melding of fine and rough, earthy and colorful. His hands and cuffs for

women would make even a jewelry store guy think twice. Recently, Allee received a promise from Connecticut jewelry designer **SHARON** to drop \$1000 on a bracelet — for himself.

Allee never let his own work without rights being the slightest threat to his consistency. Kristin, with a thick beauty and shoulder-length hair, is a precious model for his more feminine creations. The two met when she was browsing at the Kenner Greenway Gallery — Allee worked alongside master goldsmith **TIMOTHY SHANNON** for six years. Needless to say, Kristin was attracted by Allee's creations — and him.

Despite the old proverb's expectation that it's bad luck to make one's own wedding rings, Jacob confesses he did just that. "There was never I wasn't going to do that," he declares. His engagement ring for Kristin sets an unusual rectangular "tangerine cabochon" diamond that once belonged to her grandfather. — **JACOB** Though the old proverb's expectation that it's bad luck to make one's own wedding rings, Jacob confesses he did just that. "There was never I wasn't going to do that," he declares. His engagement ring for Kristin sets an unusual rectangular "tangerine cabochon" diamond that once belonged to her grandfather. — **JACOB** Though the old proverb's expectation that it's bad luck to make one's own wedding rings, Jacob confesses he did just that. "There was never I wasn't going to do that," he declares. His engagement ring for Kristin sets an unusual rectangular "tangerine cabochon" diamond that once belonged to her grandfather. — **JACOB**

That remark says Jacob Allee and can't quite believe the path his life has taken. "I didn't come from a jewelry family," says the native

of South Stirlings, W. "But I always thought it was interesting — I couldn't tell you why." Reflection is momentary; he adds "So as side interest, you want to find something that will appeal to the opposite sex. I found some sweet class." He made his first ring at age 15.

But, growing up "with 100 acres of woods," Allee also became enamored of wildlife. Later, attending the University of Vermont and thinking "What am I going to do with an art degree?" he pursued two tracks simultaneously: art and biology. "I had to fulfill the requirements for both and Arts and Sciences and Natural Resources," Allee says. "I was on a career academic path, and if that



didn't work out, I was just going to look out in some third world country and do fieldwork."

Throughout college, he says, he loved "the balance of taking the science books and being able to walk into the studio and pencil on things." Allee got a taste of fieldwork during two different semesters abroad, in Kenya and Ethiopia. Working for the Primate Fund, which serves wild populations of birds of prey he fell for export. "Then I was going to go to the reptile biology program at McGill," Allee admits. "I had all but turned in the paperwork when I thoughtfully took a summer job at the Greenway Gallery in 1999. He stayed until 2006.

"I never went to graduate school," Allee recalls with a smile. "I thought I had to serve biology with jewelry on the side. The opposite has happened."

Now, a wing like action that carries his upper left arm and shoulder blades at Allee's most comfortable. It's styled after "my

favorite bird in the world, a 'Vermont eagle,' he explains. And, notes Kristin, "The 'henna' hair and bird back go with us everywhere." The pair takes motorcycle trips to look for roots.

"We live in an awesome part of the country," says Jacob, who once was certain he'd make his home in East Africa. "Growing up Vermont, I thought I'd be a failure if I didn't leave. But after several years in Ghana, I gave myself permission to come home."

That devotion is evident in the quality of Allee's work, and in the bright new studio perched on a black box from Lake Champlain. Looking around the space, Jacob says, "This is the most exciting thing we've done, aside from going overseas." ☺

f Jacob Allee is a graduate of St. Albans School, Burlington, and a member of the Vermont Association of Jewelers. He is a graduate of the University of Vermont and the University of New Hampshire. He is a member of the Vermont Association of Jewelers and the Vermont Association of Crafters. He is a member of the Vermont Association of Jewelers and the Vermont Association of Crafters. He is a member of the Vermont Association of Jewelers and the Vermont Association of Crafters.

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Contractors versus

confirms. His open confusion about the legal definition of "employee" appears to be widespread. Vermont law currently gives three different definitions of this term. Madison Pondero adds, noting that the Labor Department has asked the legislature to simply amend by updating a single standard. But lawmakers do not appear likely to take that step.

According to the Labor Department website, an employer's status must be assessed using two "tests": "Right to Control" (To what degree does the employer supervise the employee, and for how long?), and "Nature of the Business" (Is the "independent contractor" performing the same tasks as payroll employees?).

Two legislative task forces appointed to examine workers' compensation and unemployment insurance issues, respectively, are not recommending changes to the definition of "employee" or "independent contractor." Similarly, says the Workers Comp Modernization and Fraud Enforcement Task Force that he chairs heard testimony from some employers who complained that the definitions are hard to understand. Other employers tell us that they are not confused by the definitions.

"People are reluctant to look that particular horse in the eye" because the legal definition of employees and independent contractors has been a matter of considerable contention for many years, observes Jo Choquette, who helps for the Vermont Press Association. He recounts a long-running dispute over carriers who deliver newspapers by foot in suburban areas. Vermont officials sought to have these generally teenage workers reclassified as employees of the newspapers rather than as independent contractors. The controversy was resolved in 2005 by legislative action that exempted them to avoid direct action such as from Labor as independent contractors, Choquette says, with that decision then being interpreted to cover the on-foot newspapers delivery, as well.

The question of the status of others who

drop-off bundles of newspapers once a week was left unresolved, Choquette notes. He says he has heard "anecdotally" of publishers recently coming under investigation by the Labor Department on this issue. The Vermont Press Association has not been asked by its members to seek legislative relief, Choquette reports. He notes, however, that many major newspapers were struggling "just to survive," as added tax burden could prove crushing.

Labor advocates support the stepped up enforcement efforts being undertaken in Vermont. Calling such legislation "a big problem" in the state, Vermont Workers' Center director James Harkin argues that if the Labor Department "can't cracking down on this, they're going companies at times the choice."

Matt Lusk, marketing director for the Vermont chapter of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, suggests that state efforts haven't been doing enough to discourage business from misclassifying workers. "Nothing happens in a definitely a step to the right direction," Lusk says.

On the other hand, small-business owners make complaints by the Labor Department on the independent contractor issue. "I get thousands of e-mails of being forced to close," says Abbot D. Abbott, owner of Vermont Coaster. Abbott says his Millston-based firm, which delivers company parts, handles repairs and other items as independent contractors, could potentially be whisked with \$20,000 in penalties per pay period in months of audit cost not by the Labor Department. Vermont Coaster has six full-time employees, and in 2007 Abbott says, he paid independent contractors about \$100,000 that would otherwise not have gone into the Vermont economy. "We'd be forced out of business if we were hit with that kind of penalty," Abbott says. "Is that what the state wants to have happen?"

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Terry Bicycles versus

JDR has agreed on to design and help market a whole new line of women's cycling and leisure apparel for Terry JDR, which has worked with other bicycle and component manufacturers, including Giant and SRAM, will also design bikes for Terry.

Upgrading the look of Terry products is one of Robert's priorities. At present, the company's major market is composed of women roughly between the ages of 35 and 54. Robert says that design input showing younger as the rising focus. "We want to emphasize the fashionable side of cycling," she says. "We're trying to introduce to the most of style." ☐

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Studio Store

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A bulletin board in Johnson's Studio Store is jammed in fibers for the exhibits of artists who have stopped by over the years. Located near the Vermont State Center and Johnson State College, Andrea Proctor's studio will supply store patrons a steady stream of to-die-for resident artists' stock-up-urgents: pencils, brushes, charcoal pens and whatever else their creations do your call for. Despite its pocket-sized dimensions, the shop suite packs a punch. Acrylic, watercolor and oil paints are neatly categorized by color, and rolled-up canvases can be pulled out and measured by the yard. Soft and bristle brushes are lined up according to features and size. Drawers offer large sheets of paper, sketchbooks and watercolor paper. "It's like to think that if someone here is painting a dove, I can get them started," says Proctor, an abstract painter herself. With her studio located above the shop, she can easily sample new products to make solid recommendations to her customers. "I try it all out myself," she says. "If you product, think a good well-go ahead and get it." And if she doesn't carry it, she'll have it ordered and delivered within the week. "It's artists serving artists," Proctor explains. First and foremost, "We try to keep our prices down. The important thing is that if people have the desire to do artwork, they do it."

CAROLYN FOX



2. De facto segregation deepening in public education

Latino and African American students attend more segregated public schools today than they have for four decades, Professor Gary Orfield notes in "Barriers to the Goal of an Integrated Society: A 21st Century Challenge," a study conducted by UCLA's Civil Rights Project. Orfield's report used federal data to highlight deepening segregation in public education by race and poverty.

About 44 percent of students in the nation's public school system are people of color and this group will soon make up the majority of the population in the U.S. Yet this racial diversity often isn't reflected from school to school. Instead, two out of every five African American and Latino students attend schools Orfield characterizes as "intensely segregated," composed of 90 percent to 100 percent people of color.

For Latinos, the trend reflects growing residential segregation. For African Americans, the study attributes a significant part of the reversal to ending

desegregation plans in public schools nationwide. Schools segregated by race and poverty tend to have much higher dropout rates, more teacher turnover and greater exposure to crime and gangs, placing students at a major disadvantage in society. The most serious segregation is in western states, including California.

Fifty-five years after the Supreme Court's Brown vs. Board of Education ruling, Orfield notes, "Segregation is fast spreading into large sections of suburbs, and there is little or no resistance for communities seeking to resist the pressures of residential and ghetto creation in order to build powerful, fully integrated schools and neighborhoods."

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3. Somali pirates: the untold story

Swash parties off the Horn of Africa were his gold for mainstream news outlets this past year. Stories describing surprise attacks on shipping vessels, daring rescues and catches of rhyne bandits capturing multimillion-dollar ransoms were all over the screens and front pages.

But even as the premier capitals around the Gulf of Aden captured the world's attention, little ink was devoted to factors that made the Somalis desperate enough to resort to piracy as the first step in the deepening of nuclear crises and rampant internationalization of their coastal waters.

In the early 2000s, when Somalia's government collapsed, foreign interests began swooping into ungoverned coastal waters to steal the fish — and venturing into an unprotected Somali territories to

clandestinely dispose of nuclear waste. Those so forthright confronted with taxpayer fees for the remediation of toxic dumping let hell loose with the 20th century, when fishing vessels were ordered to return to their shores and coastal waters were closed to foreign vessels. Meanwhile, the uncontrolled fishing fleets damaged the economic livelihood of Somali fishermen and eroded the country's supply of a primary food source. That's when the piracy began.

"And we expect surviving localities to stand passively on their beaches, pulling in our nuclear waste and waste as we catch their fish to eat in restaurants in London and Paris and Rome," noted journalist John H. Coatsworth in a Washington Post article. We didn't act on those crises — but when some of the fishermen responded by disrupting the food supply for 20 percent of the world's fish supply, we began to check about and."

4. North Carolina's nuclear nightmare

The Sherron Harris nuclear plant in North Carolina's Wake County isn't just a power generating station. The Progress Energy plant, located in a backwoods area, leaves the destruction of housing the largest radioactive waste storage pools in the country. Spent fuel rods from two other nuclear plants are transported there by rail, then stored beneath circulating cold water to prevent the radioactive waste from heating.

The hidden danger according to investigative reporter Jeffrey St. Clair, is the looming threat of a pool fire. Citing a study by Brookhaven National Laboratory, St. Clair highlighted in Counterpunch the catastrophe that could ensue if a pool were to ignite. A possible 160,000 people could wind up with cancer. Contamination could stretch for thousands of square miles. And dangers could reach an estimated \$100 billion.

"Spent fuel rods by design are not a waste — but they are extremely highly radioactive and can melt," Robert Alvarez, a Senior Department of Energy advisor and Sen. Schuler at the Institute for Policy Studies noted in a study about safety issues surrounding nuclear waste pools. The fire could well spread to other fuel. The long term contamination consequences of such a event could be significantly worse than Chernobyl."

Sherron Harris' track record is packed with problems regarding regulatory shortcomings of the plant and malfunctions of the facility's emergency warning system.

When a study was sent to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission highlighting the safety risks and recommending technological fixes to address the problems, St. Clair noted, a pro-nuclear commissioner successfully persuaded the agency to dismiss the concerns.

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5. U.S. fails to protect consumers against toxics

Two years ago, the European Union enacted a bold new environmental policy requiring close scrutiny and restriction of toxic chemicals used in everyday products. Available products such as lead in lipstick, endocrine disruptors in baby toys, and mercury in electronics can threaten human health. The European legislation aimed to gradually phase out these toxic chemicals and replace them with safer alternatives.

The story that has gone unreported by mainstream American news media is how this game-changing legislation might affect the U.S., where chemical corporations use lobbying muscle to ensure congressional law oversight of toxic substances. As global markets shift to favor safer consumer products, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is lagging in its own scrutiny of products chemicals.

An investigative journalist Mark Schapiro pointed out in *Exposed: The Toxic Chemistry of Everyday Products* and *What's at Stake for American Power*, the 1990s tendency to believe in efficient regulation by big business could backfire in this case, placing U.S. companies at a competitive disadvantage by using products manufactured here will be regulated with increasing stringency.

Recent studies, the implications of toxic restrictions on toxic products are chilling. Just one third of the 187 chemicals on the EU's watch list have ever been tested by the EPA, and only two are regulated under federal law. Meanwhile, researchers at UC Berkeley estimate that 40 billion pounds of chemicals enter American consumer daily, and only a fraction have undergone risk assessments. When it comes to testing the safer more stringent EU standard, the stakes are high — with consequences including economic impacts to worker public health.

6 The authors for the top 10 stories can be found on the website on all the articles at www.sfedge.com. To find the other 15 stories and for more information, see the Project Censored website at www.projectcensored.org.

Editorial note: While Green Edge has been so prominently in news people and events in Vermont since we started the Project Censored summary is made available to members of the Environmental Movement in Massachusetts. The fact these stories are important for our readers is not the only reason we have given these stories a priority in our reporting.

6. As the economy shrinks, D.C. lobbying grows

In 2008, as the economy trembled and unemployment soared, Washington lobbyists working for special interests were paid \$162 million — more than any other year on record. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, special interests spent a collective \$31,521 per legislator per day for every day Congress was in session.

One event that triggered the lobbying boom, according to CRRP director Sheryl Kirschhuber, was the federal budget — with the federal government announcing that the lobbyists got a piece of the pie. In addition, some of the first to come were the usual players who helped prop up the network after economic downturn by engaging in high-risk, speculative trading practices.

Then, though some from oil, insurance and real estate

interests pulled back last year, they still managed to spend more than \$450 million in a sector for lobby policymakers. Kirschhuber says, “That was a lot of influence, and it’s a clue as to what the financial sector is trying to get through the government’s bailout program.”

The list of highest-ranking spenders in Washington lobbying needs like a roster of some of the most powerful interests outside. Topping the list was the health sector, which spent \$476 million lobbying Congress last year. A close runner-up was tobacco, insurance and real estate sector, spending \$453.5 million. Pharmaceutical companies played down \$228 million, electric utilities spent \$167 million, and oil and gas companies paid lobbyists \$151.2 million.

7. Obama's controversial defense appointees

President Barack Obama's appointments to the Department of Defense have raised serious questions among critics who've studied their track records. Although the news media haven't put much emphasis, the defense appointees bring to the administration controversial histories and conflicts of interest due to close ties to defense contractors.

Obama's decision to retain Robert Gates, Secretary of Defense under President George W. Bush, marks the first time in history that a president has opted to keep a defense secretary of an outgoing opposing party in power.

Gates, a former CIA director, has faced criticism for allegedly spending intelligence reports for political means. In *Broken by the Sword*, author and former CIA analyst Nathan Goldman described how in “the chief of staff office for the Reagan administration’s drive to order intelligence reporting to

White House political donors.” Gates also came under scrutiny for questions surrounding whether he misled Congress during the Iraq Crisis, was fired in the mid-1990s, and was accused of withholding information from intelligence community when the U.S. provided military aid to Saddam Hussein during the Iraq Iraq war.

Gates are also uneasy about the appointment of Deputy Defense Secretary William Lynn, who formerly served as a senior vice president at defense giant Raytheon. Connors and was a registered lobbyist for Raytheon until July 2008. Lynn, who previously served as Pentagon's comptroller, came under fire during his confirmation hearing for “questionable accounting practices.” The Defense Department filed multiple lawsuits under Lynn's leadership because it was unable to properly account for \$14 billion in financial transactions made over the course of several years.



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8. Big business cheats the IRS

The Cayman Islands and Bermuda are sought for Bank of America, Citigroup, American International Group and 11 other financial giants that were the beneficiaries of the federal government's 2008 Wall Street bailout. It's not the before weather that captures some of America's wealthiest companies in open operations in the Caribbean archipelago. The offshore zone provides safe havens to stash cash out of the reach of Uncle Sam.

According to a 2008 report by the Government Accountability Office, which was largely ignored by the news media, 38 of the top publicly held U.S. companies, including some reaching substantial profits of federal budget dollars, have never opened a tax haven that allow them to avoid paying their fair share to the Internal Revenue Service. The

report also spotlighted the activities of Citicorp Bank of Switzerland (CIBS), which has helped wealthy Americans to use tax schemes to cheat the IRS out of billions.

In December 2008, leading tax Goldman Sachs reported its first quarterly loss, and promptly followed up with a statement that its tax rate would drop from 34.1 percent to 1 percent using changes in geographic earnings and as the result. The difference—instead of paying \$6 billion in total worldwide taxes as it did in 2007, Goldman Sachs would pay a total of \$14 million in 2008. In the same year, it received \$12 billion in debt guarantees from the U.S. government.

"The problem is larger than Goldman Sachs," US Representative Lloyd Doggett, a Texas Democrat who serves as the top watchdog on Ways and Means Committee, told Bloomberg News. "With the right hand put begging for billions more, the left hand hides a billion."

9. U.S. connected to white phosphorous strikes in Gaza

In mid January, as part of a military campaign, the Israeli Defense Forces fired several shells that hit the headquarters of a United Nations relief agency in Gaza City, destroying provisions for basic aid such as food and medicine.

The shells contained white phosphorus (referred to as "Willy Pete" in military slang), a smoke-producing, spontaneously flammable agent designed to obscure hostile territory that also can ignite buildings or cause grotesque burns if it touches the skin.

The attack on the relief agency headquarters is just one example of a violent situation that researchers discovered had been hit during the January air strikes. In the aftermath of the attacks, Human Rights Watch volunteers found spent white phosphorus shells on city streets, apartment roofs, residential compounds and in a UN school in Gaza.

Human Rights Watch says the 155mm white phosphorus rounds used internationally law, which prohibit deliberate, indiscriminate or disproportionate attacks that result in civilian casualties. After gathering evidence such as spent shells, the organization issued a report condemning the repeated firing of white phosphorus shells over densely populated areas of Gaza as a war crime. Amnesty International, another human rights organization, followed suit by calling upon the United States to suspend military aid to Israel—but to no avail.

The U.S. was a primary source of funding and weaponry for Israeli's military campaign. Washington provided F-16 fighter planes, Apache helicopters, tactical missiles and a wide array of munitions, including white phosphorus.

10. Ecuador says it won't pay illegitimate debt

When President Rafael Correa announced that Ecuador would default on its foreign debt last December, he didn't say it was because the Latin American country was unable to pay. Rather, he framed it as a moral stand. "As president, I couldn't allow us to keep paying a debt that was obviously immoral and illegitimate," Correa told an international news agency. The news was widely reported in financial publications, and the stories led to a quiet battle of wits between Correa and his creditors as an external fight with ties to Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez.

But there's much more to the story. The announcement came on the wake of an exhaustive audit of Ecuador's debt, conducted under Correa's direction by a newly created debt audit committee. The unprecedented audit documented tens of billions of dollars of illegitimate and illegality in the decades of debt collection from international lenders.

Although Ecuador had made promises in creating the value of the national asset she knew it actually took out loans on the 1970s, the foreign debt had nonetheless swelled to levels three times as high due to astronomically high interest rates with a large percentage of the country's financial resources devoted to paying the debt, little was left over to combat poverty in Ecuador.

Correa's move to stand up against foreign lenders did not go unchallenged by other international debt holders nations, and the decision could set a precedent for developing countries struggling to get out from under massive debt obligations to first world lenders.

Investors eventually agreed to a restructuring of Ecuador's debt at about 15 cents on the dollar. Meanwhile, the move served to expose deficiencies in the World Bank system, which provides little recourse for countries to resolve disputes over potentially illegitimate debt.

OTHER STORIES IN THE TOP 25

- 1) Brazil's Congress approves bill from the occupation of Palestine
- 12) Hypertensive death of Mike Connell — Real House show, on short
- 13) King's record album goes 50th
- 14) Congress revealed problems connected
- 15) World's largest carbon trade funds
- 16) U.S. rejection of death sentence
- 17) The 100th birthday of G. L. Smith was in Berlin

- 18) Ecuador's constitutional rights at risk
- 19) Birth to last week ends up to defeat labor
- 20) Secret revealed of the presidential election
- 21) Pakistan's cricket players to call off war
- 22) Quarterly Federal Government loan
- 23) Arizona's 10th World War Veterans are a surprise to see
- 24) Dollar glut forces 25 military expansion
- 25) Fast track of legislation in Western America

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David Cochran, MD, CEO, Vermont Information Technology Leaders

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Michael Luby, COO, CPS Healthcare, Inc.

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Dr. John Brumsted, Chief Quality Officer, Fletcher Allen Health Care

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Susan Besio, Ph.D., Vermont Director of Health Care Reform and VT Director of Medicaid and Lauren Parker, Chief Executive Director of MBA Health Group

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Seven Days surveys Norwich cadets on security, liberty and life during wartime

BY ANNY BROMAGE

What do Norwich University cadets think about water boarding, government wiretapping and sending more troops into Afghanistan?

The answers might surprise you — and they matter more than you may think. Today's cadets are tomorrow's military leaders, defense contractors and business managers. Many will hold positions of power and influence in the armed forces, their workplaces informing important national security decisions.

And their numbers are growing. This year's freshman class of 121 ROTC scholarship recipients is the largest at

Norwich since the end of the draft — and the largest group of business-Army cadets ever. The Army is making more ROTC scholarships available to fill its upper ranks, paying the college years of students who are commissioned as second lieutenants upon graduation.

Most Norwich cadets were just middle-schoolers when the nation was stricken on September 11, 2001. They came of age during the Bush years, when torture and government surveillance weren't just the stuff of spy-popping news stories but also of glorified dog-eat-dog on let shows such as "24."

Bene Days wanted to know what the swelling ranks of Norwich cadets think about the hot-button national security issues of the day. During the online questionnaire Survey Monkey, we sent our questions through the university press office on let 440 cellphones in the Corps of Cadets.

One hundred forty-four cadets completed the 30-question multiple-choice survey, and in no odd pity one firm to suggest their answers.

"Whatever it takes to keep us alive," wrote one, when asked whether torture can be justified to gain intelligence from suspected terrorists.

Another cadet wrote that as tortured logic: "Anyone will say anything when

they are being tortured in order to make it stop."

Most cadets consider waterboarding a form of torture — and 72 percent say they'd waterboard a terror suspect themselves if they thought it could stop an attack.

Fifty-two percent of respondents think domestic radicals pose a bigger threat to U.S. security than do foreign terrorists. But they overwhelmingly stand behind the right of Muslims to serve in America's military, even while some admit to being rattled by the Ft. Hood shooting.

"We don't keep our own people in check, right to privacy or some nonsense," offered one cadet, "the Ft. Hood shooting being a perfect example. No one sees the neighbor as the one being the terrorist."

Many Norwich ROTC graduates complete their requisite eight years of military service and then leave for civilian civilian jobs. But some will stay in the armed forces longer and intend to high-profile posts. Norwich counts among its graduates 302 Army generals, 11 Air Force generals, nine Marine Corps generals and 16 Navy admirals.

Ross Kaplan, a 38-year-old Army colonel from Canal Springs, Fla., has wanted to join the military since childhood — a result of watching "too much Top Gun," he suggests.

Kaplan was a seventh grader, walking into a photography class, when the planes hit the Twin Towers on 9/11. He had already wanted to join the armed forces, but the attacks hardened his resolve.

"It was a feeling of vengeance," says Kaplan, who agreed to be interviewed about his survey answers. "Go get those fuckers."

That sounds tough, and plenty of cadets say they fear torture and selling back civil liberties in the name of security. Just last week, two Norwich cadets were charged with assaulting a classmate in an incident that recalls "enhanced interrogation." The accused cadets allegedly hired a freshman to a

party, where they bound him, tied him to a chair and assaulted him before a crowd of his classmates. Eleven more cadets face potential disciplinary action for their involvement in the beating.

But, like many other Norwich cadets, Kaplan opposes the harshest solutions and takes a complex view of modern warfare. He thinks torture creates more terrorism and thinks the Obama administration should negotiate whether the use of harsh interrogation techniques binds any U.S. laws.

"I don't believe we should sweep it under the carpet or turn a blind eye to what happened in the past," Kaplan says.

On close reading, the survey results reveal many curiosities.

Four out of five cadets oppose closing the military prison at Guantanamo Bay. If it were shuttered, only freshmen favor moving terrorist suspects to U.S. prisons — even a prison in their home state. Septentriens, juniors and seniors all oppose sending terror suspects onto American soil.

Asked whether the Bush administration misled the American public, intentionally or not, about the reasons for invading Iraq, most freshmen and sophomores answered "no." A majority of third- and fourth-year cadets said "yes."

A week before President Obama's announcement that some 20,000 more troops will be sent to Afghanistan, female cadets said they oppose such a "stomp" by 43 percent, while men support it by 65 percent. Likewise, 60 percent of female cadets oppose warrantless wiretapping of U.S. citizens suspected of terrorism, while male cadets favor it by 51 percent.

"All communications should be able to be subject to monitoring," wrote one third-year male cadet, who describes himself as a political "moderate." "You don't want someone to read/hear it [you should] send a letter."

Below is a sample of results from the survey. ☐

For a full report on the survey, visit www.sevendaysmag.com.

RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS AT A GLANCE

RESPONDENTS	
SEX	164
MALE	77.4%
FEMALE	22.2%
RACE	
WHITE	86.2%
HISPANIC	2.2%
AFRICAN AMERICAN	1.5%
ASIAN	2.2%
OTHER	5.9%
GRADE	
1ST YEAR	12.6%
2ND YEAR	34.1%
3RD YEAR	35.6%
4TH YEAR	14.1%
POLITICAL IDEOLOGY	
PROGRESSIVE	2.2%
LIBERAL	3.7%
MODERATE	33.8%
CONSERVATIVE	34.6%
VERY CONSERV	7.4%
LIBERTARIAN	4.4%
DON'T KNOW	14.0%
RELIGION	
CATHOLIC	35.3%
PROTESTANT	34.6%
JEWISH	2.2%
MUSLIM	0.7%
HINDU	0.0%
OTHER	12.5%
NONE	14.7%



AS A COUNTRY, HOW SAFE ARE WE AFTER THE TERRORIST ATTACKS OF SEPT. 11, 2001?



MORE SAFE	★★★★★	64.8%
ABOUT AS SAFE	★★★★	33.3%
LESS SAFE	★	2.6%
DON'T KNOW/UNSURE	?	2.3%

"An attack on an overcrowded public high school in South Florida could produce twice as many casualties as on September 11, 2001."

—2nd year male cadet, who gives the Bush administration "no credit at all" for lack of terror attacks on U.S. soil since 2001



WHICH POLITICAL PARTY DO YOU TRUST TO DO A BETTER JOB HANDLING TERRORISM?



DEMOCRATS	★★	8.6%
REPUBLICANS	★★★★★★	95.0%
DON'T KNOW/UNSURE	★★★★	28.3%

"I don't think any political party can protect its citizens from a determined enemy."

—2nd year male cadet, who feels war against Iraq is going "not well at all" and that "9/11" was a warning



WHICH DO YOU THINK POSES A MORE SERIOUS THREAT TO THE U.S.?



FOREIGN TERRORISTS	★★★★	36.4%
DOMESTIC RADICALS	★★★★★	52.1%
DON'T KNOW/UNSURE	★★	11.3%

"Foreign terrorists are the ones who influence radicals in the country or bring in terrorist sleeper cells into our country."

—2nd year male cadet, who said Muslims should be allowed to serve in the U.S. military



DO YOU THINK THE USE OF TORTURE AGAINST SUSPECTED TERRORISTS IN ORDER TO GAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION CAN BE:



JUSTIFIED	★★★	21.7%
SOMETIMES JUSTIFIED	★★★★★	48.3%
BARELY JUSTIFIED	★★★	16.7%
NEVER JUSTIFIED	★★	10.1%
DON'T KNOW/UNSURE	?	2.2%

"Students will see where the number of lives saved outweighs the possible harm. However, at that point, the individual will still be held accountable for [their] actions. This is what separates us from the terrorists."

—4th year male cadet, who said the Obama administration should not investigate whether harsh interrogation techniques broke U.S. laws



DO YOU THINK THE U.S. SHOULD SEND MORE TROOPS TO AFGHANISTAN?



YES	★★★★★	55.2%
NO	★★★★	23.1%
DON'T KNOW/UNSURE	★★★	21.7%

"I do not understand the objective in Afghanistan from the United States perspective."

—2nd year male cadet, who said to "continue" buy the U.S. will capture Osama bin Laden



DO YOU CONSIDER WATERBOARDING A FORM OF TORTURE?



YES	★★★★★★★★	71.7%
NO	★★	12.0%
DON'T KNOW/UNSURE	★★★	15.2%

"It presents no urgent threat of killing a person."

—2nd year male cadet, who said he did "whatever it takes" — including waterboarding someone — to prevent a terror attack

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» WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO WATERBOARD IF YOU THOUGHT A TERRORISM SUSPECT HAD INFO THAT COULD PREVENT AN ATTACK ON U.S. CITIZENS OR TROOPS?



YES	★★★★★★★	71.7%
NO	★★★	13.0%
DON'T KNOW/UNSURE	★★★	15.2%

"I would have no problem with it. In fact, I would love to take part."

—2nd grade male child who said torture is "justified" to gain crucial security information

» DO YOU THINK THE OBAMA ADMIN SHOULD INVESTIGATE WHETHER ANY LIES WERE BROKEN IN THE WAY TERRORISM SUSPECTS WERE TREATED UNDER THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION?



YES	★★★★	25.3%
NO	★★★★★	59.4%
DON'T KNOW/UNSURE	★★★	12.3%

"What happened, happened and at this point there is no point in destroying a nation former president's reputation and tarnishing the U.S.'s for justice."

—4th year female child, who called herself "very conservative"

» DO YOU THINK THE GOVT. SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO WHISTLEBLOW THE PHONES OF U.S. CITIZENS SUSPECTED OF TERRORISM WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING A WARRANT?



YES	★★★★★★★	71.7%
NO	★★★	13.0%
DON'T KNOW/UNSURE	★★★	15.2%

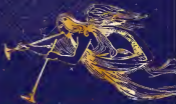
"No way should they be allowed to do that."

—3rd grade male child, who often flies in his own plane

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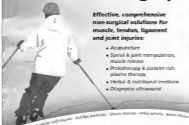
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A Very Filthy Christmas by J.W.

Seven Days: What do you know about Vermont?

John Waters: Well, it sounds like my kind of town. You always hear about it. You know, it's one of those places where ... if I was running from being recognized, people there would hide me, so I have a very good feeling about it. And I'll try not to do anything illegal while I'm there, which is a short time. So, for 24 hours, I plan to commit no crimes except verbal Christmas crimes.

SD: There's a local celebrity drag group called the House of Lenny who have been casually stalking you and blogging about it.

JW: Oh, eh. What are they saying?

back. I met Karl Lagerfeld at an event, and he's really funny and smart. I wasn't sure I would like him before I met him, you know what I mean? But the best thing he told me — my favorite failed art film ever is a movie called *Roque*, with Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton, and the costumes are credited to Trunk of Roque — Karl Lagerfeld told me he was Trunk's assistant on that movie. So I'm all for Karl Lagerfeld, he'd be the perfect Santa.

SD: How long did you continue to believe in Santa?

JW: I remember my aunt told me that I would say, "You know, I *know* about Santa. I know the garden angel and

I'M A BIG FAN OF [ALVIN AND] THE CHIPMUNKS.
I AM TURNED ON BY THEM, YES.

JOHN WATERS

SD: They've been blogging about trying to get to know you in Provincetown before the show here.

JW: Wow. No, I haven't seen that one. Well, I hope they're friendly.

SD: They're very sweet.

JW: Well, good. If they go to Provincetown, they see me on my bike cycle all the time, get like Miss Gush riding through town.

SD: I imagine they're not on bikes.

JW: Well, you never know. I see drag queens on bikes a lot. There's one that drives through town all the time on a little scooter. In Provincetown, almost everybody rides bikes. I guess it is hard to ride while in drag, because your outfit will get caught in the spokes. You get used to seeing pretty much anything in Provincetown.

SD: In *Crackpot*, you talk about watching there were a "never-safer, never-too-rich Ken Kragle." Your description brought to mind a conservative Vermont resident, Karl Lagerfeld.

JW: But has he ever been in a Santa outfit?

SD: He has his chic black Heidi Klum/Santa outfit with a fan.

JW: His diet book is the funniest diet book ever. The Karl Lagerfeld diet, it's so great — I talk about it in my new

Santa Claus are the same person? So I would get confused. I thought that he had two jobs, you know, I wondered, What do they do the rest of the year? But when I stopped believing in it — I don't remember, really, and I don't remember it being a trauma.

SD: It sounds like, either way, it was a tough one to get for you.

JW: I was named just Celine, so, always, anything good comes with guilt. So, basically, Santa was used against you, like, if you weren't good, he wouldn't come. I always tell the story of my Aunt Kate, who was Stella's sister — who, as a child, her parents really did give her coal. Now you ever heard of a parent doing that? But they did, and she flipped out and everything. So that I always thought of and was obsessed by that, too. She really got sick and stressed and coal. Really, that's child abuse.

SD: Have you made your Christmas card for the year yet?

JW: I certainly have, and I've signed all 1800 of them. My assistant has different plus-size ones that say "John Waters" over their own "Love, John," and the ones that say "Love, John Waters," and the ones that say "Love to John," and we go through the list. It's a major production every year.

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A Very Filthy Christmas

SD: What's on it this year?

JW: Oh, I'm never telling before people get them. I'm not gonna tell until I read them and people get them around. People tell them online, and then they never get one if I find out who it is. They're cut off.

One year my card was a good one, it was me in a "Wonder" thing — you know, when you get in front of the numbers and everything — and I'm holding the numbers in a little hat. And I went down, and the real police helped me do it. They don't do that anymore. It'd all on the computer now, but they got out the old ones and did it.

SD: What's on your Christmas list this year?

JW: I like the Buildings of Disaster, and they have a new one coming out soon. Do you know that? I just give a design award to the people that do them. Boys in the name of the cartoon page. They're all the same size. It's like high, white, plastic replicas of buildings when terrible things happened. I have Waco, I have Oklahoma, I have the Oklahoma's cubes, I have the OJ highway, Princess Di's tunnel. They're kind of great. I always ask my mom to give me the new one for Christmas. And I always have books.

The best presents, it's not about spending money, it's about something so perfect that you never even know [it] was there in the first place. That's the very best present you can get. And it could cost a nickel, it has nothing to do with what it costs. The worst present: first gift kids. I can buy a feeling pen? You spend and there are six pens? That's outrageous.

SD: Does Pratsack appear to be any closer to... busting?

JW: Well, today it's not an abortion, but getting in line. I personally do not know of any \$5 million American independent films that are shooting right now. It's the worst it's ever been in my life in the film business.

It's a tough time. I'm also in the third act of shooting up a whole new one, too. I don't know why, because they all like it, a screenplay. It wasn't that they didn't like the script, it was just, these days, a film has to cost under a million or \$100 million. I'll get it made somewhere I wrote a book, and I'm been working on that for 28 years. It comes out in June [and is] called *Role Models*. So I'm always busy. I've always got projects, thank God.

SD: I know you really love Christmas. *Ed and Black Christmas* — are there any more recent Christmas movies you recommend?

JW: Not really, and that's why I made *Pratsack*, which is a Christmas movie, so I don't know. They're hard to make, good Christmas movies — really hard. I think. And even ones that are so bad, they don't make them anymore, they're more like a '50s kind of thing.

I'll tell you my favorite one — I forget — which I saw last year was *Alvin and the Chipmunks*, who I'm obsessed with. On Christmas Eve day. I sat there alone [in the theater], and parents were making their children come away 'cause I looked like a child audience.

And I will be the first one paying to see the *Chipmunks* this year, which is the female gift department, so that's the Christmas movie this year. I'm a huge fan of the *Chipmunks*. I am turned on by them, you know. Somebody sent me a card that the original owners did of *Alvin* was making it with Theodore and the other one watching and filming it, and it's right in my house. It's a prime possession.

SD: Have obscenities like that diminished as you've matured?

JW: No. I'm always interested in the newest thing, you know — is Levi [Johnson, former boyfriend of Rachel Pate] gonna show a hard on, soft or half-penised? What is the answer, 'cause they don't say in all the articles about how nasty that he's doing. So, yeah, there's always something that I'm following closely.

SD: Who do you think will be a top-from-the-headlines John Waters star?

JW: Les. Les is a minute. And today I read in the paper that, if he's a gay movie, he said, "he's like [it] which is kind of amusing."

That's what I'd like to do pure. Pulling Les's lever — that's gonna be the movie that I want direct. I think Les would be the one in the news this minute. And I don't really do that anymore. Most of the people who are famous for being in the newspaper I don't like that much.

■ A John Waters Christmas

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Feedback

I also applied you for discussing writers (before issues, the high cost of living of black men in the state) that a lot of my longtime "progressive" Vermont friends will not. That tells me that Vermont is also struggling with the same kind of "demographic anxiety" as the rest of the country. Like I said, thanks going to be interesting.

Thanks again for such a fine article.

Brian Jackson
BENNINGTON, VT

Anderson is associate curator of the Bennington's National Museum of American History Archive Center

Any concerned citizen should be hard-pressed to interpret this deadly conclusion in any other way than an attempt to poison the politics of the state.

The attack on BT has only deepened. The city appears to have found a resolution to BT's debt by a refinancing offer. New the major parties delay will more interested in passing fingers and finding blame, if any is due, than in supporting BT in their fight with the administration, they don't care that they finally cut deals on a strong public utility or that they would not the city's infrastructure, but only the private, monopolistic, corporate utilities who laugh all the way to the bank.

Sandy Eard
BURLINGTON

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FORECLOSURE HELP

I was pleased to read your profile of John Ahoy of 3R/MAX North Professionals ("Work") in the November 15 issue of Seven Days. It is great to publish the work he's doing to help homeowners in distress sell their homes prior to foreclosure and avoid a major hit to their credit. I was struck by his point that there are four homeowners who go into foreclosure never seek assistance. I want to make sure that people know that Champlain Housing Trust's HomeOwnership Center offers free foreclosure-prevention counseling that is open to the public. We have counseled more than 100 homeowners in difficult situations over the past year and are here to help.

Emily Higgins
RICHMOND, VT

Higgins is director of the Champlain Housing Trust.

TELECOM TROUBLE

The Democratic and Republican city councilors claim friendly intentions toward Burlington Telecom. Yet in their current attacks on the Progressive administration in City Hall, they recklessly endanger that, intentionally avoid telecommunications enterprise.

Regardless of their stated support of BT, the major parties passed a resolution which, if enacted, would be the end of Burlington Telecom and put out of business that vital tool of economic development for our city. Unlike competitors, BT offers advanced and cutting-edge technology for businesses and job creation, unlike competitors who are governed in their programming decisions only by the market, BT is a city-owned utility and is therefore constitutionally mandated to guarantee fair speech.

The resolutions passed by the Democrats, with one exception, and the Republicans called for "no further funding for BT." Some councilors went further and said "no further lookups."



HOARDER LESSON

And how people can't get to the bathroom because all of their crap is in the way ("Buried in Stuff," November 25). Even sadder that we have become a culture of Accumulation Disorder. The fun part first, and the this just to survive. With the holiday season in full gear, perhaps it's time to reflect on whether our yearly spending ritual could use more worthy reflection?

Heather Conroy
BURLINGTON

OCF IS TRYING

In Ken Picardi's article "As Vermont's Department for Children and Families Dig Enough to Address Abuse and Neglect?" (November 4), I wish that he provided in-depth coverage of how recent cuts have impacted resources, staff morale and our ability to provide services to Vermont's children. Instead, he barely mentioned the surface.

I work for DCF and I can say firsthand that we are doing everything we can to protect children in the state, but frankly, the administration's cuts have put more than a strain on staff and resources, they've hurt children as they outreach to think that a department like DCF can handle the cuts that they're involved with out jeopardizing the safety of Vermont's children. Please have employees with your kids. Please have employees with your kids. Please have employees with your kids. Please have employees with your kids.

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we fear that children will be hurt because of Douglas' cuts.

On top of that, the administration has chosen to vilify state employees in the press, casting us as selfish and unwilling to help the state, when in the end, it's his ideology that is getting in the way of us doing the important job that we need to do: protecting Vermont's children. We're lucky to have the commissioner we have, but Mr. Pineda deserves a more accurate picture of what is happening in the state, he should have spoken with several front-line state employees. He would have discovered a theme. Yes, the cuts do have a negative impact on services to Vermont's children.

Kara Haynes
MELTON

BE MORE SENSITIVE

First of all, I am very thankful that reporter Lauren [Ober] saw my letter, participated in Raza class, and thought it worthy of my article "Second Play" (November 4). This is for those, especially for someone like me who is just starting out, and overall, I really liked the story.

My criticism is not about any of the content related to Raza, rather it is the description of another of my jobs. It was written that I am a "creator of special needs children." I cringed in embarrassment when I read that, hoping that no one would think that those were my actual words. I have been involved with Kids on the Block Vermont since 1983 as a volunteer puppeteer, an employee and a friend. The most important thing that I have learned from that experience is person first language. I worked at Burlington BBR for four years, and have been taking care of a few children with special needs for several years. Any of my friends will tell you that I always correct them for saying something like "Down's Syndrome kid," "crippled guy," "disabled child." We should identify recognize the person before the difference, as in "children with special needs" not "special needs children."

I realize that this is a commonly used phrase, but that doesn't make it right. I hope that you will catch something like this before it gets printed next time. I'm so sorry to criticize, but I will sleep better at night now that I have said my piece.

Stephanie Shohet
COLCHESTER

LANGUAGE POLICE

The queer inquirer who said Lauren Ober used "opiates" in his article "Second Play" (November 4) possibly wrote the most ridiculous article ever. Caring as much about a spelling word that you will write about it is so gay.

Words take on new meanings and

must be observed in context. If every word that has personal meaning is considered offensive, there are no words for creative writing; we'd have to suggestly avoid every article.

I don't take offense to people calling me happy. I don't respond that because my lips are not that big and I don't appreciate them commenting on my figure. No, it's just a word, and words gain separate definitions like "lead" and "lead" or "love" and "love." Language evolves.

Words might be our handicap, but such a medium of expression will never be disabled because it's how everyone, whether African American or Oriental, cracker or fig, is will always be coming. Maybe this is a midwest conundrum, and I don't want to stir up. It's just something to think about.

John Powell
WELLSVILLE

STRENGTH THROUGH DIVERSITY

Thanks to Kim Powell for having our attention to some of Vermont's most dynamic emerging leaders in "Minority Rule" (November 11). Leadership from within communities of color is essential to building social change, but let's not leave those individuals as being leaders of their specific racial group only. If the insurance rate is any indication, the state of our state suggests that we need every voice at the table. Vermont town and state leaders must seek opportunities to create access and remove barriers that will facilitate diverse communities that will facilitate diverse communities that is equitable, diverse communities are created through conscious action and long-term commitment across relations, dialogue and policies. We have diverse leadership, we gain mutual dialogue and more satisfying results.

Rebecca Gurney
INDEPENDENCE

Gurney is executive director of YWCA Vermont.

CORRECTIONS

There were several erroneous last week's story about housing, entitled "Hunted in Staff." The subject, "Hunted in Staff" from the Agency of Human Services Field Service — not Burlington Housing Authority — and also does not live in subsidized housing. Marile Graham, who does work for BHA, has a housing assistance budget of \$25 a month — not \$25 per year.

In last week's "State of the Arts," "Quick Shot" mistakenly stated that Frank O'Malley's film *Work a Double* had been shown on WPR. It was on B3TV.

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Taste Test: Santos Cocina Latina

BY SUZANNE PODHAIZER

It doesn't take more than a few seconds inside Santos Cocina Latina — Stone's new Latin American restaurant — to realize it's unlike any other eatery in Vermont. The first clue is the upbeat Spanish music that thrums through the speakers. The second depends on where your eyes happen to rest. A statue of a saint holding a child, presumably Jesus, stands over the bar station. Directly across the eateryway, in full view of the busy area, hangs an expressionist painting of a nude woman in a field of red flowers. One of the blooms is placed suggestively over her face.

If you arrive on a weekend night, you're likely to have time to examine these works, or the much larger abstract composition of multicolored squiggles that hangs near the entrance. That's because the restaurant, which has been open for just two weeks, has already become a bona fide hot spot. On the Saturday after Thanksgiving at 7 p.m., the dining room, bar and foyer were packed with people waiting to dine. On occasion, it took several minutes for staff members to greet new parties.

The things are here for good reason. Chef owner Miguel Garcia Lopez has created a menu full of Latin dishes that pulse with color and flavor, drawing on the cuisines of Puerto Rico, Cuba, Peru and more. Although the service still has traces of the jive-up-and-jitters, the fare rarely falters. Between the unique ceramics, the tender and flavorful lamb cooked slowly and the decadent desserts, Santos Cocina — located in a brand-new eco-friendly building — is a true find.

Put the fever, the clear consensus is to be as faithful as the food. The main dining room boasts a working menu "zeller" lined with recycled paper. Throughout the note, decorative items mix with elegant that would be at home at MOMA. The bar has a TV tucked in

In front: Chicken is a staple — paired with fresh mandarin oranges and mango. (Santos Cocina)



the corner, but patrons who don't make a point of peering around may never notice.

The few service glitches I experienced on my two visits all seem easily correctable. When our party of eight ordered a bottle of wine — one a friend planned to try — our very young server poured too much in the first few glasses, draining the bottle before everyone was

served. The most gracious response would have been to donate a couple of glasses to the table with the manager's blessing. Instead, she asked something along the lines of, "So, do you gonna get another one?" We did, but that purchase degraded us of a more expensive bottle we'd been eyeing.

On the same visit, we ordered a meat item called *La Banda Roja* — which is

usually made with fish and served with perfectly soft — only to learn it was unavailable. Four nights later that dish was gone from the menu, replaced by Chef Rylee Peña for two.

That soft-on-iced rice dish is delightful when we'll need, and on the second visit, my two companions and I agreed to share it, plus another entrée. (Individual entrees ranged from \$15 to \$18; the Peña was listed at \$18.) Because we figured we'd be eating plenty of food, we chose appetizers that featured chicken, pork and veggies. But when I placed our order, there was no Peña to be had. We watched a nearby table go through the same rigamarole a few minutes later. The lesson: If the kitchen can't prepare a dish that's on the menu — particularly a specialty of the house — servers should tell diners up front.

On the upside, the items we did get didn't disappoint. And not a single one was ordinary. At Santos Cocina, the standard macho salad is topped up with lime juice, strips of green mango and bits of toasted coconut. During dinner, one aptly named salad instead. Pans of fish with dip for ceviche — raw fish pickled with vinegar or citrus juice. The venison made with black grapes, olives and a brilliant yellow marinated sauce was tasty and satiating. On the dessert menu, we discovered another rarely deep-fried fritter called *buñuelos* — pomegranates, in this case — served with a ruby and cranberry and pomegranate sauce.

One tiny quibble. Although it was pleasantly spicy and spicy, I found a taste of pickled Virginia Kasha in too heavy on sheer vinegar. Otherwise, with its thin strips of seitan, carrot and peppers, it offered a nice counterpoint to the herbal, buttery and salty flavors of other entrees.

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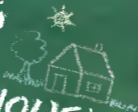
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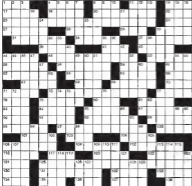
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Answers to 100



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PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING RE: FAIRPOINT COMMUNICATIONS Wednesday, December 9, 2009 - 7.00 PM

The Public Service Board will hold a hearing to gather public input on the petition brought by the Vermont Department of Public Service for an investigation into whether the City of Montpelier, Vermont, is in violation of the Telecommunications Company of Vermont (TICOM) Public Service Board's decision to award the license to the City of Montpelier.

For more information, please contact the Public Service Board at 1-800-255-1550 or visit the Public Service Board's website at <http://www.vermont.gov/publicservice>.

All hearing fees are waived. Please contact the Public Service Board at 1-800-255-1550 if you require accommodations.

DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, December 9, 2009
TIME: 7:00 PM
LOCATION: Montpelier City Hall, 100 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602

AGENDA: 1. Public Service Board meeting
 2. Public hearing on the petition for an investigation into whether the City of Montpelier, Vermont, is in violation of the Telecommunications Company of Vermont (TICOM) Public Service Board's decision to award the license to the City of Montpelier.

TESTIMONY: The Public Service Board will hold a hearing to gather public input on the petition brought by the Vermont Department of Public Service for an investigation into whether the City of Montpelier, Vermont, is in violation of the Telecommunications Company of Vermont (TICOM) Public Service Board's decision to award the license to the City of Montpelier.

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For additional information regarding this position you may contact Kevin Edwards at 802-858-5175 or email kevin.edwards@state.vt.us Reference job posting 25942. Manpower - Full Time

To apply for this position, please go online to the Department of Human Resources web page at http://humanresources.vermont.gov/career_center

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SAINT MICHAEL'S COLLEGE

PART-TIME INSTRUCTOR OF CHINESE LANGUAGE (MANDARIN)

The Department of Modern Languages at Saint Michael's College is seeking a part-time instructor of Chinese language (Mandarin) to begin fall 2010. Applicants should hold at least a master's degree and have experience in teaching the language.

Requirements: master's degree, teaching experience

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Substance Abuse Counselors - St. Albans

Phoenix House of New England is under contract with the VT Department of Corrections to implement and operate a residential treatment program within the Northern State Correctional Facility for women in St. Albans, VT. We are currently seeking for two Counselors. Activities will include assisting in program development, conducting assessments, group and individual therapy, participation in treatment teams and assisted record maintenance. Dual location is desired, although willingness to pursue Substance Abuse and Mental Health certification will be accepted. We are also seeking for a part time outpatient counselor to work in our Intensive Substance Abuse Program in the St. Albans Prison and Parole Clinic.

Applicants interested in working full-time or part-time are invited to complete voluntary Applicant Self-DE form at <http://www.phoenixhouse.org/Northeast/Current/Openings/stalbans.html>



Email resume and form to Richard Towner
rtowner@phoenixhouse.org
or call 802-873-1300

Howard Center

Mental Health And Substance Abuse

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or don@planningboard.com
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Chandine Darby
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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANNER - PART-TIME

Defender County Regional Planning Commission (Burlington, VT area) seeks person with training and experience in emergency management planning or public administration for a part time emergency management planner position. Availability with Vermont or local emergency services systems desired. See complete job description under Employment Opportunities at www.ecrcvt.org

Please send a cover letter and your resume by December 15, 2009 to chakr01@ecrcvt.org. ECRCVT is an EOE

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COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL OF VERMONT

Corrections Education Program Chief Agency of Human Resources/Department of Corrections

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The leader should have excellent administrative experience in K-12 education, have an appreciation for the individual needs of all, have the ability to manage student problems that help improve the curriculum. Be supportive of professional learning for staff, be able to maintain and increase high standards of educational excellence and have the vision and leadership skills to create the staff and administration team in achieving these goals.

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- Proven track record of student academic success or significant academic gains in previous administrative roles.
- Demonstrated instructional experience and financial acumen and the ability to maintain accountability.

Candidates must possess a current Educator's License with a K-12 General endorsement. Please note that successful candidates with out a license in Vermont will be required to obtain a VT Department of Education license in a emergency for completion of required probation.

The State of VT offers an excellent compensation package. To apply interested candidates should send their job application to www.humanresources.state.vt.us or contact the Department of Human Resources (recruitment services at 802-644-1197) or (802-651-1315) (TTY/Voice TDD) for more information. This position is listed under Supervisory Category: Education & Learning Services, as Corrections Ed Program Chief relevant job posting #0294 and Job Code 011001. This is a full time position. Application deadline is 12/15/10.

For further information, contact the Community High School of VT, Department of Corrections (802-261-2588)

Champlain Valley Union High School

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food

Drive-By Booty

On a Swanton commuter route, Mother Hubbard's cupboard is far from bare

BY LEON THOMPSON

Mother Hubbard's Bakery, Deli & Country Store is a classic case of the right thing in the right place at the right time. And Raymond Hubbard sure has family's vintage coming 100 years ahead — sort of.

Back at the dawn of the 20th century, Hubbard prepared for his brothers, Homer and Clark, and his son, George, that tomorrow would one day dot from Road Route 207 cornering Swanton and Highgate. A century later, Raymond's great-great-grandchildren, Melissa Larson, and her husband, Mark Larson, have brought his vision to fruition. The pair of 30-year-olds have opened a much needed store on a small Swanton parcel of family property — some of the oldest and priciest real-estate in Vermont.

Raymond Hubbard's parents came true with the construction of Interstate 89. Now right off Exit 18 on St. Albans, Route 207 — is colloquially known as "the Highway Home" — breeds a car dealership, home furnishings, sporting goods, supply company and luncheon place. And more is coming. Mother Hubbard's was the first project proposed for Swanton's 990-acre "Designated growth center," which has an expected build-out of 20 years.

Recess the former knew what he was talking about. "How a year back there could have looked that far ahead and known... well, it's beyond me!" said Raymond Hubbard, Raymond's 70-year-old daughter is in fact, during a recent interview with *Seven Days*.

Question is, can his descendants as far ahead? Looking across fields surrounded why the Larson couple would gamble on a bakery, deli and store in the middle of a field on rural Bushey Road, just off 102.

But, with a controversial Wal-Mart planned to spring up approximately 2 miles west and a nearby Mountain Church under construction, Swantonians seem to have realized the Larsons have vision. While Mother Hubbard's is still celebrating its soft opening and its subscribing is minimal, customers have surrounded the spot since Mark and Melissa opened the doors on October 25.

It helps that Bushey Road sees 2800 cars a day. Many northeastern Presbiter-

County residents who commute to Chittenden County, from Shelburne all the way to Richford, get in 3.89 via Route 108, Bushey Road and Route 207. Mother Hubbard's is in the right spot for them to roller up in the morning and snag last minute items — from snacks and juices to over the counter medications and cleaning supplies — at night.

Some customers may also come for the drive-through grocery, perhaps the only one in Vermont. Word is? Text! Well! Simply pull up in the window, place your order and longer while staff retrieves your items. Is a happy? Call ahead for a snack, snack and coffee.

**INITIALLY, SOME LOCALS
WONDERED WHY THE LARSON
COUPLE WOULD GAMBLE ON
A BAKERY, DELI AND STORE
IN THE MIDDLE OF A FIELD
ON RURAL BUSHEY ROAD.**

It's convenient, and also a bit of a curiosity that not everyone comes for the ease of grab 'n' go. Some like to linger a bit, like Denise and Roger Rasmussen of Swanton, who stop at Mother Hubbard's each Sunday after they attend 9:00 a.m. mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church in St. Albans City.

"It's nice, clean and neat," Denise said one recent Sunday morning, dressed in church gear and sipping a cup of Green Mountain Coffee Roasters brew. The Rasmussens weren't the only churchgoers at Mother Hubbard's that day. A family of six, part in from mass or Swanton, occupied two nearby tables, and a petite, short-haired woman with a small silver crucifix around her neck sat reading a newspaper and sipping hot chocolate.

Several acres from her husband at one of Mother Hubbard's custom made wooden tables, Denise Rasmussen explained why they keep coming: "The food is

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gird. The doughnuts are really good. I'd hate to have to get up early to bake them, though."

Mother Hubbard's deli offers daily soup specials and sandwiches on house made white, wheat or rye breads. Sandwiches are bread with a full range of filling choices (Doggone, start with a half sandwich or we'll replace you for a whole sandwich before home. What will happen, Daggoner?)

The Thursday before Thanksgiving, customers lined up and asked about that day's offerings. A pair of hunters ordered BLTs. A blonde woman had something sweet in mind.

"I've heard nothing but rave reviews about this place on Facebook," she told CJ Rasmussen, a Mother Hubbard's worker who was punching buttons on the cash register.



(The list has a few pages on the popular social networking site.)

"She gets up early one of those blackberry muffins," advised a tall, black haired man in a grey sweatshirt, work boots and blue jeans. "That's what I'd want, if I wasn't getting something else."

She went for the muffin. He opted for a chocolate whoopie pie.

Who also got up early to make these popular doughnuts, muffins and other baked goods? Nick and Melissa Larson whose doughnuts and cookies they Hubbard's went, moved snowbirding. Merry Wood, blonde snowbird, pins. All together, Mother Hubbard's staffers turn out 30 dozen doughnuts, two dozen cinnamon

rolls, two to three dozen muffins, 12 dozen cookies and 30 loaves of bread each day. On Saturdays, said Melissa, all the bread often disappears by 1 p.m.

Daniel and Carol Hubbard, Melissa's parents, also pitch in. Baking their flock of nearby relatives with strong ties, the Larsons have managed to keep their pay roll to two full time and two part time employees. Their daughter Mother Hubbard's ambition here is Monday through Sunday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

"My family [members] and always asking, 'What can I do?'" Melissa said, sitting in Mother Hubbard's with her grand mother, Eugenea. "I shouldn't be surprised by it, though. I know that about my family already."

With a laugh, she added, "I try to get Dad to leave by 11 every day, but it's hard. He lingers."

Opening the cafe helped Melissa realize she was a person she'd harbored since high school. She and Nick were snowbirds at Monticello Valley Dunes on Freedom. When they graduated in 1992 he went to Utah — ostensibly for college, mostly for snowbirding — while she enrolled in a summer baking program at local Smith's College in upstate New York.

"I always thought I'd always want to bake," Melissa said.

"She sure did," Eugenea interjected. "She had her own little rolling pin and dough and cookie cutters. She always wanted to make something."

The summer after she attended Paul Smith's, Melissa looked for the Tyler Place Resort in Highgate Springs. "It was a bad experience," she recalled. "I was just too young and didn't assert myself. I got taken advantage of and walked all over."

Disheartened, Melissa moved to Utah with Nick and reimagined herself with a job at Cookies by Design, a national chain that substitutes cookies for flowers in its bouquets and gift baskets. During her three and a half years in the Boulder State, she moved on accounting degrees. With the baking and business leave her down pat, all she needed was her own gig.

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Taste Test: Santos Cocina Latina by JAC

I lightly recommend a handful of slow-cooked meat dishes, all of which were tender and seasoned to perfection. From the Tapatitas portion of the menu came a soft corn tortilla topped with shreds of rich braised pork, thin slices of radish and cabbage, and sour cream. A chicken asopado with citrus chile sauce was as flavorful that my tablemates mistook the typically mild bird for a more flavorful fowl.

Because chicken is often bland and rubbery in restaurants, I rarely order it as an entrée. But on my second trip, having sampled nearly everything else, I had the citrus-seared half chicken "Paravaso style." It arrived sans bones, a lovely touch that made it easy to share. The plant and apple — but succulent — red beans and rice were a fine foil.

At many eateries, side dishes seem like afterthoughts that we slugged on plates to fill them. But Glenna Lopez has a way with fish, root vegetables and legumes that makes sides into something. With slices of golden shirataki — seared dark on the outside, rare in the middle and slathered with pinkish and garlicky sauce — came sautéed root vegetables that were just as mouth watering. Buttery shrimp served with mango, a tomato, and lime was a dish that was even more delicious than the other two. It tasted as if it were enhanced with broth and was studded with crisp bits that appeared to be pork cracklings. Carnitas (seasoned beef) rice and beans — distinct from those served with the chicken entrée — accompanied mango-mustard pork cubes. They may have outdone the meat.

The only entrée whose side wasn't as enticing as the main course was the Pato Colorado, a juicy, crispy duck breast dish come with what appeared to be a Latin version of the Chinese cabbage apple-fennel mix. The rice was fine, but the duck was mediocre.

On each visit, my comrades and I were cautioned to save room for dessert. Having sampled every sweet dish on the menu, I would like to



second this sage advice. Although the Key lime pie, rum bread pudding and dulce de leche-laced chocolate soufflé are good, the almond Tres Leches cake and coconut flan are even better.

Since my first visit, I've been proselytizing about Santos Cocina to all my foodie friends. Perhaps it's because we see so little Latin American cuisine up here by the Canadian border, but every single dish on the menu seems like a discovery.

The searby alone might make this restaurant worth the drive from outside of Stowe, but the delicious factor is the chef's way with flavor. Combining ingredients in ways Vermont palates aren't used to is one thing. Finding the perfect balance of asking zesty citrus, verdant cilantro and pungent garlic is a bigger challenge, and Glenna Lopez does it with skill.

Road like this doesn't stay a secret, and the word is already out. If you don't want to spend too long waiting the next visit at Santos Cocina Latina, be sure to make a reservation. **B**

Santos Cocina Latina 317 Main Street • Food Network 2013-14

Get a second? Contact: Santos Cocina Latina at 802-340-3786 or santos@stowe.com

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Drive-By Booty by Joe

The young couple returned to Vermont in 2004 to be closer to family and start their own. They said that Graham built a house across from the home site of Mother Hubbard's and had three children — Parker, now 6, Hunter, 4, and Burke, 3.

They worked hard, too. Melissa spent seven and a half years at Marsh, a Burlington company that manages captive insurance agencies, making an annual salary of about \$70,000, while Nick was warehouse manager at University Warehouse, a Colchester distribution company.



Rick, with great jobs, the business dreamed of working for themselves. To help them get started, David Hubbard suggested they subdivide a 15-acre piece of his former farmland (Glenricher, Vt., is the only Hubbard still farming on the Highgate Road).

Nick and Melissa started planning their business before the recession hit. They never talked when the economy took a nosedive, but realized they were already water deep in the process and decided to move ahead.

"I can't have [a] conservative accountant in me," Melissa said. "That side still gets nervous. I don't think I'll ever go away."

Nick has consistently supported Melissa's vision. "You have to have complete support if you're going to do something like this. You can't go into this half-mad," he said. "Was I nervous? Sure. I had some nerves. There are still some nerves."

The Larsons designed the entire building from the big bay windows that overlook Lake Champlain and portions of the Green Mountains in the soft indoor light and a restaurant mark that resembles

an antique wash bin with a lead pump. Working through Mother Hubbard's, it's hard not to find yourself humming classic country tunes about farming and family.

But to towns located, the store also means overlooked prosperity. Kathy Loring, a former GOP state lawmaker and vice chair of the Swanton Planning Commission, said she's happy to see it in the "disgarded growth area," Mother Hubbard's in representation of its intentions in our town plan. Additionally, it's nice to see a local farm finally using the district to diversify their business.

endless." In that respect, the Larsons are following in the footsteps of Raymond Hubbard, who dove off his dairy farm before diversification was trendy. During his name, farmers put forward — unless they also tapped maple trees — but Hubbard sold no kegs and ran a milk-butchery business. "The Hubbard family is once again taking a business risk to support themselves and the citizens of Franklin County," Loring suggested. "In today's economy, that is encouraging and refreshing."

The one she recently took on other leap of faith. Despite getting a promotion with ensuing potential of \$100,000 annually, Nick quit his job at University Warehouse earlier this fall to take on Mother Hubbard's full time.

"Money's not everything," he said.

With his returned to Marsh with the option of working from home three days a week, an arrangement that allows her to keep teaching Mother Hubbard's. The plan she'll have from 4 to 7:30 a.m., while Nick runs the children off to school.

It was what was recommended; Melissa said, "but it's taken some time to get this up and running and decide what works best here, and for our family. We hope that we can keep going and keep it to the family."

Hubbard believes Raymond Hubbard would be proud. The turn of the century farmer embraced risk and understood that if he didn't keep his head above water where he might have landed.

"If you want it, try it," the said, putting his attitude in a nutshell. "If it fails, move on to something else." ☺

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FRIDAY THE CUSH (SPYGLASS ROOM)

I've Been Waiting, Waiting, Waiting, Waiting So Long

It's as if we were born waiting for the CUSH to unveil their latest album, Between the Lines, well...we have been. Rumors about the new project began circulating before the answers had even returned from their return. Once the past spring hit again what if it were finally And not to spoil the review of the disc on page 54, it was worth the wait. Sadly the band will soon once again head south to Austin for the winter months, where they will "officially" release the disc. But local fans can get their hands on it this Friday when the band plays a special VT release party at the Monkey House with their fellow islanders and

TAP KILGUS

SUN. 10:30 PM

THE BROTHEDOWN THERMIST 10:30 p.m. Mon-Thurs (TAP) 10:30 p.m. FIVE

northern

WEE'S HUBBLES 10:30 p.m. Mon-Thurs (TAP) 10:30 p.m. FIVE

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calendar

DECEMBER 4-5

4-5 | MUSIC

So It Goes

Is there music in the clamor of traffic lights and subway stops? Brooklyn-based quartet *Pericussion* hears it—and captures it for the rest of us in this contemporary urban soundscapes called *Downtown City*. Rural objects become instruments alongside the musicians' usual repertoire of glissandos, riffs, piano, and lo-fi and bowed maracas, to name a few. *Pericussion* players Eric Beach, Josh Quillen, Adam Skowalski and Jason Treuting play on machine-like aspects too, including props and captured footage of the cities where they perform. Audiences may even hear sound recordings from a percussion workshop he hosted in B-town earlier this week. These personal and elements combine to "bring out a quickly portrait of contemporary urban life," as the *New York Times* puts it. Listen in for a new perspective on home.

SO PERCUSSION

Friday, December 4 and Saturday, December 5, 8 p.m., at FlyerSpace in Brooklyn \$25. Info: 963-9866 www.flyerspace.org

Inching Up

With bright primary colors and a layered collage look, children's author Eric Carle's illustrations have always popped off the page. But now his distinctive art and stories are coming to life in a whole different way—onstage. Since 1999, the Mamead Theatre of New Boston has traveled the globe, reaching Carle's most popular tales with the magic of *Black Light*. Eye-catching, large-scale puppets make luminous appearances in a summer update the plot and an original score by composer Steven Naylor captures the mood. The troupe rolls into the Hop with a couple full this week. It's Carle's most famous work, *1969's The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, as well as *Little Cloud* and *The Mixed-Up Chameleon*. You don't have to be a kid to get a little joy out of this show.

THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR & OTHER FAVORITES

Saturday, December 5, 2 p.m. at Moore Theatre, Hopkins Center for the Performing Arts in Portland, ME. Info: 603-648-2622; <http://mooretheatre.org>

5 | THEATER

Home Away From Home

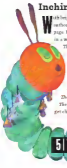
There's no need to venture far to experience other cultures this weekend. Just hit the road for the 12th annual Vermont International Festival in Essex Junction, where the Vermont Performing Arts League celebrates cultural diversity with a three-day fair of crafts and live shows. More than 40 vendors peddle handmade goods traditional to other parts of the world, along with tastes of Africa, the Mediterranean and China. Tap that air with roughly 20 local performing arts groups (as well as a few from afar), and you'll have plenty on your plate. Tune in for Rick Palmer's Irish songs and piping.

The McDaniel Irish Dancers and interactive Zumba, tango and salsa classes. And on the guitar, VRAL director Ben Bergman notes, "True culture," he says, "is just folks being what they are, in their own style."

VERMONT INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

Fri-Sat, December 4-5, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, December 6, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Champlain Valley Exposition in Essex Junction. Info: 802-870-6703

4-6 | FAIRS & FESTIVALS



'S Wonderful

Rising as the first entry on the American Film Institute's lineup of "most inspiring American movies," Frank Capra's *It's a Wonderful Life* works as magic every holiday season. Montpelier's Lost Nation Theater runs with that for the second year in a row by producing an old-fashioned live-radio-play version of the 1946 drama. Audiences will be mesmerized by live actors (as numerous radio) playing out George Bailey's house of woe in Bedford Falls, while Foley artist Kim Ward captures up-close sound effects. To hear her hawking glass, for example, she'll hummer "hard ribbon candy." When the script calls for snow crunching underfoot, expect to see her trampling on cereals. In the Capra spirit, the production is LNT's "gift to the community," says director Kathleen Keenan — just \$10 in advance. That is some kind of wonderful.

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Thursday, December 9 through Thursday, December 10, 7 p.m. at Montpelier City Hall. \$10/10-children under 11 free with a companion; adults: Info: 225-2452 www.lostonline.com/wonderlife



8-10 | THEATER



ATTENTION EVENT PROMOTERS:
Submissions for the
December 23,
December 30 and
January 6 issues
are due by Thursday,
December 17.

WED.02

business

BUSINESS OPEN STUDIOS Demand for services for the holiday season is high. Many vendors are looking for new clients. Open studios are a great way to showcase your work and meet with potential clients. Open studios are held on Wednesday, December 23, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information, visit www.burlingtonopenstudios.org.

community

REPAIR CLUB OF IDEAS The Repair Club of Ideas is a group of people who help each other with home repairs. The club meets on Wednesday, December 23, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information, visit www.repairclubofideas.org.

dance

"TAKING FLIGHT" A group of dancers will perform a piece titled "Taking Flight" at the Burlington Town Center. The performance is scheduled for Wednesday, December 23, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information, visit www.burlingtontowncenter.org.

etc.

BURLINGTON COUNTRY CLUB The Burlington Country Club is a private club that offers a variety of amenities, including golf, tennis, and swimming. The club is located at 1000 Burlington Road, Burlington, VT 05403. For more information, visit www.burlingtoncountryclub.org.

CHARTERED COUNTY PHILADELPHIA CLUB The Charters County Philadelphia Club is a private club that offers a variety of amenities, including golf, tennis, and swimming. The club is located at 1000 Philadelphia Road, Philadelphia, PA 19101. For more information, visit www.charterscountyphiladelphiaclub.org.

WINTER WALKS The Burlington Town Center is hosting a series of winter walks. The walks are scheduled for Wednesday, December 23, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information, visit www.burlingtontowncenter.org.

GERMAN ENGLISH EXCHANGE The German English Exchange is a program that helps people learn German and English. The program is located at 1000 Exchange Road, Burlington, VT 05403. For more information, visit www.germanenglishexchange.org.

JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGING The Japanese Flower Arranging is a program that teaches people how to arrange flowers in the Japanese style. The program is located at 1000 Flower Road, Burlington, VT 05403. For more information, visit www.japaneseflowerarranging.org.

WED.02-002

LIST YOUR UPCOMING EVENT HERE FOR FREE

ALL SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE BY FRIDAY, AT NOON ON THE THIRDIEST DAY BEFORE THE EVENT. THE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE BURLINGTON OPEN STUDIOS COMMITTEE.

YOU CAN ALSO EMAIL US AT CALENDAR@BURLINGTONOPENSTUDIOS.ORG OR CALL US AT 802-255-1234. WE'LL BE HAPPY TO HELP YOU WITH ANY QUESTIONS YOU HAVE.

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2009
WINTER WALKS
CHARTERED COUNTY PHILADELPHIA CLUB
JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGING
GERMAN ENGLISH EXCHANGE
WINTER WALKS
CHARTERED COUNTY PHILADELPHIA CLUB
JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGING
GERMAN ENGLISH EXCHANGE

Visit Santa at Burlington Town Center

Santa will be available for photos and to express your Holiday wishes through December 24th in Center Court near the fireplace. Children will receive an autograph book filled with coloring pages and places for family members and Santa to autograph.

Visit the Santa set for details on how to win a breakfast with Santa at the Courtyard Burlington Harbor Hotel on December 20th!

Santa Hours

Nov. 30 – Dec. 13 Mon – Fri, Noon to 7pm Sat, 10am to 8pm Sun, Noon to 6pm

Dec. 14 – Dec. 24 Mon – Sat, 10am to 8pm Sun, Noon to 6pm



Mall Hours



Wed-Fri, Dec. 2 – 4, 10am to 9pm

Sat, Dec. 5, 9am to 9pm

Sun, Dec. 6, 10am to 6pm

Mon-Fri, Dec. 7 – 11, 10am to 9pm

What brings you today?



Find extended holiday mall hours, color and event information along with a complete store directory at www.burlingtontowncenter.com

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December 5th
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discounts at many Mad River Valley businesses

calendar

WED. 12/16/10

POWDERHORN Local postcard machines, vintage storybooks and more in comfortables hidden behind a wood sign at the Powderhorn, Pleasant Brook, Essex. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info: 802-735-1330

WAX DRESSING & KNOTTING (WDR) Expert knot and wax dressing lessons, presented by a local craftsman. Instructors and models in rustic costumes. 10000 Carriage Road, Essex. 4-5 p.m. 20 p.m. Free. Info: 202-600-6000

LIVE HARKENING CLUB ANCHOR Harkening is the traditional outdoor sport. Learn about the local business and the sport. 10000 Carriage Road, Essex. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info: 202-600-6000

film

CLASSIC FILM HOUSE Hosts live movies from the past and present. 10000 Carriage Road, Essex. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info: 202-600-6000

STONE MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL Eight days of free shopping, movies from around the globe. 10000 Carriage Road, Essex. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info: 202-600-6000

food & drink

CANDY CANE BAKING DEMO Candy cane baking, 10000 Carriage Road, Essex. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info: 202-600-6000

LAUREL VALLEY FARM BROWN BREADS Breads, 10000 Carriage Road, Essex. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info: 202-600-6000

WINE TASTING Wine tasting, 10000 Carriage Road, Essex. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info: 202-600-6000

holidays

HOLIDAY TREE DECORATING Paper lanterns, 10000 Carriage Road, Essex. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info: 202-600-6000

HOLIDAY TREE DECORATING Paper lanterns, 10000 Carriage Road, Essex. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info: 202-600-6000

books

POETRY & PROSE READINGS Poetry, 10000 Carriage Road, Essex. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info: 202-600-6000

READING & WRITING WITH ENGLISH Reading, 10000 Carriage Road, Essex. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info: 202-600-6000

PETER THE HEDGE HOG Hedgehog, 10000 Carriage Road, Essex. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info: 202-600-6000

YOUNG READERS Young readers, 10000 Carriage Road, Essex. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info: 202-600-6000

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SAT.05

dance

BARBARA BARKER PARTY Hosted by artist and choreographer, the party will feature live music by local bands. Tickets: \$10. 1000 Main St., Montpelier. 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. 223-0394

PIRELLI PIRELLI CONCERT Local artist, Pirelli will perform at the Pirelli Ballroom. Tickets: \$10. 1000 Main St., Montpelier. 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. 223-0394

etc.

AN EVENING AT THE LIBRARY Local artists will perform at the library. Tickets: \$10. 1000 Main St., Montpelier. 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. 223-0394

CHILI POLAR BEER Local artists will perform at the Chili Polar Beer. Tickets: \$10. 1000 Main St., Montpelier. 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. 223-0394

FRANKIE BROWNE Local artist, Frankie Browne will perform at the Frankie Browne. Tickets: \$10. 1000 Main St., Montpelier. 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. 223-0394

LEAH HARRIS CHAPLIN Local artist, Leah Harris Chaplin will perform at the Leah Harris Chaplin. Tickets: \$10. 1000 Main St., Montpelier. 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. 223-0394

PIRELLI PIRELLI CONCERT Local artist, Pirelli will perform at the Pirelli Ballroom. Tickets: \$10. 1000 Main St., Montpelier. 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. 223-0394

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Arts & Festivals

WINTER FESTIVAL Local artist, Winter Festival will perform at the Winter Festival. Tickets: \$10. 1000 Main St., Montpelier. 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. 223-0394

PIRELLI PIRELLI CONCERT Local artist, Pirelli will perform at the Pirelli Ballroom. Tickets: \$10. 1000 Main St., Montpelier. 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. 223-0394

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Copenhagen Climate Talks

Daily Blog Reports from the UN Climate Conference and climate justice protests: climatevoices.wordpress.com

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December 5-19
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from Copenhagen



Indigenous men protests the UN Climate Conference in Bali, 2007 (Photo: Langleie)



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CHRISTMAS AT THE HOME Families contribute to the 40th anniversary art and craft display, on average making between 100 and 200 items. 1000 North Main St., Burlington, VT 05401. 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. \$10. \$10. \$10.

RECEIVING OF WINDMILL Join us for a night of musical and literary events at the Windmill. 1000 North Main St., Burlington, VT 05401. 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Free. Info: 542-2881.

HOLIDAY BASKET Gift your loved ones with a basket of local products. 1000 North Main St., Burlington, VT 05401. 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Free. Info: 542-2881.

HOLIDAY BASKET & LUNCHEON Fresh holiday gifts and a delicious lunch. 1000 North Main St., Burlington, VT 05401. 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Free. Info: 542-2881.

WINTER SOLAR FESTIVAL Learn about solar energy and its many uses. 1000 North Main St., Burlington, VT 05401. 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Free. Info: 542-2881.

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theater

AMERICAN FOR JOHN REYNOLDS See THU 22 10pm-11:30pm. \$12 pp.

AMERICAN FOR THE SOUND OF MUSIC See THU 22 10pm-11:30pm. \$12 pp.

THE THREE ACTS See THU 22 7-9 p.m.

SENDER WITH SOUND See THU 22 7-9pm. \$5 pp.

THE TWO TALKERS ON CHRISTMAS The perennial O'Connell and Miller comedy, and children's adaption. See on East 4th Ave. Boydell Theater. 20th Anniversary 10:30am. 2 p.m. 8 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Info: 444-4704

THE NEW HENRY COTTELLAR & OTHER FAVORITES See Galt's website at galt.net for showtimes and at all three month-long special evening black light, original music, interactive video projects. See website at galt.net. House Theatre Ensemble Center. Eastmouth College. November 8-11 2 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Info: 444-4704 or 262

concerts

LA MUSE Anniversary of The Kith. See 4th Stage. A multi-talented act in an original act of music and performance. See website at galt.net. House Theatre Ensemble Center. Eastmouth College. November 8-11 2 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Info: 444-4704

SUN.06

theater

PAUL INDIAN GHOST SERIES Callie David. Paul and his ghost. See website at galt.net. House Theatre Ensemble Center. Eastmouth College. November 8-11 2 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Info: 444-4704

THE NUTCRACKER A 2007 performance of this winter classic. Subject of the Marinsky Theatre's first show. See website at galt.net. House Theatre Ensemble Center. Eastmouth College. November 8-11 2 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Info: 444-4704

film

AWAKENING ENLIGHTENMENT See THU 22 10pm-11:30pm. \$12 pp.

SCOTT'S HARBOR A family movie with "Sagebrush" stars. See website at galt.net. House Theatre Ensemble Center. Eastmouth College. November 8-11 2 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Info: 444-4704

JANE AUDREY RHYTHM TALK Jane's off the beat and on the beat. See website at galt.net. House Theatre Ensemble Center. Eastmouth College. November 8-11 2 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Info: 444-4704

PARCE CAVE A new and recent French play. See website at galt.net. House Theatre Ensemble Center. Eastmouth College. November 8-11 2 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Info: 444-4704

PAUL INDIAN GHOST SERIES Callie David. Paul and his ghost. See website at galt.net. House Theatre Ensemble Center. Eastmouth College. November 8-11 2 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Info: 444-4704

festivals & fairs

WINTER INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL See THU 22 10pm-11:30pm. \$12 pp.

film

RETURNING THE VOICE Perspectives from the past. See website at galt.net. House Theatre Ensemble Center. Eastmouth College. November 8-11 2 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Info: 444-4704

CONSUMING RITE The CONSUMING RITE OF CHILDHOOD. See website at galt.net. House Theatre Ensemble Center. Eastmouth College. November 8-11 2 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Info: 444-4704

food & drink

WINTER INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL See THU 22 10pm-11:30pm. \$12 pp.

CALIFORNIA NEW & FARMERS MARKET See website at galt.net. House Theatre Ensemble Center. Eastmouth College. November 8-11 2 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Info: 444-4704

THE ART OF SUSHI See website at galt.net. House Theatre Ensemble Center. Eastmouth College. November 8-11 2 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Info: 444-4704

WINTER INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL See THU 22 10pm-11:30pm. \$12 pp.

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Angela Boyd (right) as a child in Vermont among Lyndon's Adoptive Family.

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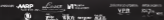
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Anthony Principiotti, Conductor



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calendar

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'Action' Steps

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

The Art of Action may be the most expensive element and hence critically involved show ever mounted in Vermont. Divided into three exhibits, it consists of 116 commissioned works by 30 artists. In the heart of the Vermont Philanthropic Lyman House, owner of the Vermont Country Store, is covering its \$400,000 cost. The Vermont Arts Council is contributing to 16-month statewide tour — which started in southern Vermont and has worked the way north — with conceptual input from the Vermont Council on Rural Development. The biggest chunk of 'The Art of Action' landed at Burlington International Airport for a six-week stop starting December 1. Most of the previous stage have been just two weeks long.

The VAC recently addressed some of the central confusion about the complex scheduling of a show divided into "Artist's Choice" and two "Curator's Choice" segments. A comprehensive itinerary can now be accessed via a series of clicks at www.vermontartsaction.org.

The organizers' popular contention is that the main event is an international festival rather than an art show. In particular, will Vermonters take most flying artists during the holidays make a profit of visiting the airport to see an art show? And will those who are boarding flights budget the time to pause 30 plus paintings?

The idea for the project grew from Gracie's private collection of art created by Vermonters from the 1930s to the 1960s. "All those artists are dead so I got to thinking about how to get living artists to make works that would hang across about the same future alive to the eye," Gracie recounts. "We're also trying to create a market and generate interest as a place where there's an opportunity to see. We're looking off this off by paying artists to do it."

Gracie's concept, refined over two years with arts council director Alex Albright, drew on a survey conducted by the VAC in 1995. It canvassed some 8000 Vermonters in an attempt to identify "core values and core issues priorities close and beyond politics," director Paul Cordile explains. Gracie and hopes expressed for the states future was compiled into a report, "Engagement Vermont," that was made available to the 100 artists from 26 states and four countries who responded to the call for submissions to 'The Art of Action'.

That large pool was winnowed by a series of committees that thus forwarded 80 artists' proposals to a panel of judges.

After choosing and interviewing 16 finalists, the panel thinned out to a consensus on which artists would be part of what Gracie calls the "Vermont Mountain 16."

Impaging and marketing prices in accordance with a predetermined theme was "completely against the way of working for visual artists," says Philip Doolittle, one of the chosen 16. "A lot of people had a lot of difficulty with that."

Still, he managed to create several artistic paintings and a humorous relief map of Vermont to showcase inspired by comments in the VAC's report. "Many people said they didn't want Vermont to become another Downstate," Doolittle bemoaned during a talk last month in Montpelier.

Gracie awarded the chosen 16 a total of \$100,000 and gave them an month to complete as many works as they wished. However, the money wasn't parceled out evenly; some artists got as little as \$10,000 and some as much as \$40,000 depending on the quality and quantity of what they ended up producing," Gracie says.

The artists also will get 10 percent of the price their pieces fetch at an auction next July at Burlington's Union Station. The rest of the proceeds will be reserved for shows that Gracie and the VAC intend to stage in coming years.

"I'm not in an art dealer," Gracie says. "I'm not making my money on this." He plans to complete for the works on auction with other artists — meaning he will, essentially pay twice for whatever he buys.

In Albright's view, that's as it should be early in the planning of 'The Art of Action,' he recalls. "I said, 'Listen, Lyman, if this is going to be an opportunity for you to commission works that go into your personal collection, we're not going to do it. To us, go to trade and insurance market and retail!'" Albright counters, "Lyman said, 'I understand. I'll be looking along with everyone else.'"

Public presentation of 'The Art of Action' wasn't assumed. Sponsor had example the artists would complete about half as many pieces as were actually produced. The output proved too large for most traditional venues so the show was divided into the "Artist's Choice" and "Curator's Choice" segments.

The latter portion was itself subsequently halved to accommodate display limitations and make the network accessible to viewers all over the state.

Artist Janet Van Fleet a founder of Middle Place Arts in Rome was called in an occasional to derive words of labeling the "Curator's Choice" selection. "It's kind of hard to call me a curator," she remarks "because curators choose what will be in shows. The work was already selected in this case."

Albright and Gracie have sought to make a virtue of their inability to book most of the

works into "standard" art venues, where exhibitions commonly are scheduled a year or two in advance. "We wanted to get the work out to as many people as quickly as possible," Albright says.

The 52 piece "Artist's Choice" segment debuted in September at a co-development Montpelier 11 has also been displayed at several storefronts. And project director John Zwarg says that the very "incongruity" of the Burlington airport as an art space makes it a clever choice. "We wanted to make [The Art of Action] available to people not habituated to going to galleries and museums," he says. "We would encourage people to go to the airport."

While acknowledging that some find the venue choices odd or incongruous, Albright says he has "no qualms, no regrets." In fact, he and Gracie take in only critical questions that verge on globalization.

"Does it meet the current art guidelines for showing work? I wouldn't care less about that," Albright says. "I don't care what the kids, 'We're not going to traditional, heavy-duty galleries where everything is perfectly lit and easily art'."

The main aim, Albright says, is to spark "civic discourse" by giving Vermonters "a chance to have discussions around issues that only matter." The project is also "helping to encourage new ways of supporting artists in Vermont" that will influence relations the arts council launches in coming years, Albright suggests.

Regardless of the unorthodox approach, Vermonters appear to be responding. About 300 visitors reportedly showed up during the first week. "The Art of Action" was being on in many storefronts in Burlington, Montpelier, and 30 attended in Montpelier 12 opening at the Richmond Free Library according to publisher Erik Peters.

The paintings themselves do present a mixture. They came in a variety of styles and encompass a range of subjects — although rarely very easy on the interpretational, and some have no discernible relevance to the show's theme. Albright's observation at a public forum in Montpelier — that it's "a most people exhibit than I expected" — is borne out by the mostly middle-aged artists' general preference to landscape and portrait traditions. Few pieces in "The Art of Action" challenge aesthetic conventions.

The organizers will try for as major appearance next time around, Gracie says. "We'll look to make space for up and coming artists who will take more risks and have a bigger on your eye attitude," he promises. ■

THE ART OF ACTION 1000 Airport Drive, Burlington 4, at Burlington Airport with a daily, and photo-viewing will be held by Art of Action until 4 p.m. 500 tickets benefit the solutions service model Vermont Institute for Rural Development Program Services, <http://www.vermontartsaction.org> or 333-4857.

The public reception for 'The Art of Action' is scheduled for 5 p.m. 30 p.m., followed by the Vermont Philanthropic Lyman House for Vermont Arts Council 7-9 p.m. 2 p.m. at the airport. Arts Right Up to Vermont, <http://www.artsrightup.com> or 333-4857.

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Lyman Orton is a Burlington resident of 'The Art of Action' to mark month in Vermont.

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art



Raychel Severance Large scale, richly colored images from the nature-and-art festival Bozanne popularize the Burlington photographer's current exhibit at the Performance Center Community Darkroom in Burlington. These and other shows, collectively and regularly titled "You Raised, You," succeed in her stated mission to celebrate exuberant youth. They also suggest a fresh new take on an eye for the visually arresting. The exhibit is on view through December 12.

GRANVILLE VALLEY SHOWS 40 PPS

EVOLVING PATTERNS: IN HONOR OF DANIELA JACOBSON (Hartford) A series of small and large-scale abstract paintings. Through December 22 at Jackson Gallery. Free and all-ages. In Middlebury. Info: 319-449-1426.

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JANISER HANSEN & JENNIFER HANSEN Sculpture and drawing. Through December 21 at Art in Motion. Info: 432-4222.

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through December 31 at Northwest Regional Art House Gallery in St. Albans City, 541-2348.

PETER MILLER: Landscape series by the Vermont painter in the newly opening shop, with 20 also featuring furniture by woodworking students and pottery made and sold by local fine artists. Through January 9 at Riverside Gallery.

at Vermont Woodworking School in Berlin, 541-4919-2049.

SARAH WOODROW: Most elegant, modern, shepard's tip presented in glass and metal, are on the art of's personal life. Through January 1 at Wooding House in St. Albans City, 541-2348-2049.



Katra Kinder

The Vermont watercolorist shows vibrant new works in an exhibit called "Windows and Doors" at Albany Jewelry Arts Collective in Burlington this month. While her paintings grace the walls, jewelry designers Timothy Dracena, Denise Coleman, Jane Frank and Mirre Josse Lamarche reveal gold and gemstone works in a collection show and sale called "Heart to Hand." Reception Thursday, December 3, 5-8 p.m., and open daily through December 25.

DE ALBANY GROUP SHOW: Photographs by Don Auger and Benet Chastain, as well as others by Peter Gargano and John Hays, more watercolor painting by Mark Miller, and other works. Through February 9 at St. Albans City, 541-2348.

regional

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART AT MATHURIN: A gallery from the catalog of art from over the past 50 years, including work by 20th-century artists. Through March 15 at Grand Museum, 1000 College Street in St. Albans City, 541-2348-2049.

"THE ART OF DONALD LAMBY SHERRIFF": More than 100 works by the painting, art and sculpture artist, who spent his early years in the Vermont mountains. Through January 2 at Grand Museum, 1000 College Street in St. Albans City, 541-2348-2049.

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Fantastic Mr. Fox ★★★★★

remember reading a production Tim Burton made on an interview back in 1993 when *The Nightmare Before Christmas* had just been released. The director was Hollywood's golden boy, his story of

ian George Clooney provides the voice of its tale character. On the heels of his portrayal of a man who staves at posts, the actor breathes life into a rarely aired riposte with his shtick set on reality.

"Can't you ever be happy without a clock on the wall?" he ponders existentially. It's a purely theoretical question, really, on, as he said his forty-year-old friend (Meryl Streep) playfully help themselves to the feathered property of nearby felines. With the birth of their first child, however, comes pressure on his Ron to put his coat-hopping ways behind him. He conceals himself in the role of a local newspaper columnist and even moves up, literally, from a hole in the earth to a house inside a tree, with an audience from a budgetary perspective (Neil Marmor).

In due time, though, Mr. Fox discovers the answer to that fundamental question is "no." He resolves to pull "one last big job," the execution of which draws the wrath of three particularly ill-tempered

Barney's outfits have rarely been as neutrally color coordinated and divinely articulated as what has come to appreciate Anderson's penchant for symmetrical whimsical riffs on animal and marine biological designs, underplayed pattern, muted pastel dysfunction, offbeat soundtrack completions and dollhouse-style cross-sections. *Barney's Diner*, *Barney's*

MOVIE REVIEWS

couldn't lose this experiment. In doing so, he hasn't merely expanded on Debb's source material. He and co-writer Noah Buschback have made it into something far cheerier and even more musical.

ELCIE WISOMAN

MOVIE REVIEWS



disappointments still a few years down the road. So there was some reason not to burst into laughter when he pronounced that his film would spark a wave of imitators. "Everyone," he said, "will be using stop-motion animation."

Well, "everyone" poured something of an envenomment. Precisely not American film-maker's world was rocked by Burton's vision, as it turned out. His name is Henry Selick. And he doesn't really count, because he'll always come under the director's wing well before Nightmare hit theaters. He directed it, in fact, under Burton's watchful eye. He later was credited as producer.

Since then, their work has remained largely indistinguishable. In 2006 Burton directed *Corpse Bride*. In 2008, Selick gave us a stop-motion adaptation of Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach*, which Burton again produced. Earlier this year, Selick released a stop-motion adaptation of Neil Gaiman's *Coronation*, which possessed a distinctly Burtonesque look despite the fact that this time his mentor did not produce or otherwise participate.

So much for Burton's visionary predictions. Sixteen years have passed, and only now do we have the first major work of stop-motion animation from an American director outside Burton's immediate creative circle. It is Wes Anderson's fantastic *Mr. Fox*, and it was worth the wait.

Also adapted from a children's book by Roald Dahl (the Philip K. Dick of family films), *Anderson's* takes us on a merry quest for the roots and lore of the year's funniest movie.

The Blind Side ★★½

The overt message of *The Blind Side* is that you shouldn't underestimate a kid from a disadvantaged background. Its real message is that you shouldn't underestimate Sanders Bullock. This year starts stacked as two solid hits — this film and *The Proposal*! — and one relative flop (*160 About a Boy*). Even in the last movie, where script is an afterthought, the messages to come off on-screen are the bleakest.

Maybe viewers like Bellock because she seems more grounded than the standard non-combative uptight princesses and dirty dames. Even when she plays as an alien invader Southern belle who's just the wife of a lawyer, as she does in *The Mindy Project*, she has a self-defining wit that belongs more to a modern teacher than a courtier dame.

Thanks to her performance and the light touch of director John Lee Hancock, *The Blind Side* is an uplifting sports drama not nearly as corny as its trailer suggests. But the film suffers from showing us LaDainian's character to the detriment of the person whose trauma he's there to help.

The film's source: Michael Lewis' 2006 book *The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game* chronicles the program of Michael Oher (Quinton Aaron), a talking, silent, virtually homeless Memphis kid who was adopted by wealthy footballers Sean and Leigh Anne Tanne (Tim McGraw and Halle Berry) and ended up playing for Ole Miss, then in the pros.

One voice carries up the appeal of Buller's Least's Aerie to female railmen in one

fraser. As depicted here, the Tooby family celebrates Thanksgiving as hosts of their big-screen TV with takes on turkey and stuffing. When Leigh Anne sees that Michael is eating alone in the dining room, she moves the rest of the family to join him. She is a Christian, Republican, pistol-packing, straight, white mother who is busy to cook a traditional feast and too busy to let anyone in her domain be isolated or mistreated.

Think a kinder, gentler Sarah Palin. And in her up growth to the vice-presidential slot, Laugh Anne does come off as perceptive and resilient.

3. Because of his athletic potential, the boy has landed at the Chelmsford-based (the) Tenthredon school, where he earns a GPR as low as his barely discernible. But teacher Kim Buckner suspects he's smarter than he seems, and Tailhook sets out to prove her right. In the process of developing Oller's mind, she also — conversely for her and her classmate, Ole Mils — grows him into a promising left tackle.

This holiday crowd pleaser has the potential to come off as a mainstream story.



about rich white folks "singing" a poor African American lull. The film's greatest weak point is the vagueness of O'Brien's character: a gentle giant who appears to have no interest in busting other guests on the ballfield. Tough Anne compels him to hold back forever (hardened the Bull, who prefers the pressure to the pain). But the chemistry to Robert Redford

is a popular libel as she fires them up by telling kids to defend her immunities as if they were her family. It's a tad too close to the way one might train a guard dog by harassing its pack proxy: the anthrax.

Granted, Otter is shrewd, making his own choices. But we never get far inside his mind, and when Leigh Anne threatens the drug dealers in Michael's old neighborhood, snarling that she's "a real mean

with the 50, and always packing," she comes off as the sweetest meanie in Dirty Harry. The story doesn't need these scenes for the drama, so, with her permission,

The *Wind* side is the rare movie that's better than its trailer, thanks to a dose of down-home realism: Does Ballock deserve an Oscar for giving the unspectacular sports movie a feminine twist? No. But she comes here alone.

MARGOT HARRISON

NEW IN THEATERS

ARMAGEDDON (PG-13) *Dir. Michael Bay* *Cast: Bruce Willis, Steven Strait* *Reviewed by: Dave Karger* *PG-13: Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13*

ARMAGEDDON (PG-13) *Dir. Michael Bay* *Cast: Bruce Willis, Steven Strait* *Reviewed by: Dave Karger* *PG-13: Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13*



ARMAGEDDON

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NOW PLAYING

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ratings

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H. ZEPHOS MANNING The lateral floor (the "lateral" here) is a dark cavity in which a bilateral myopias professor obliges to make some of the most serious and his life, which is usually unending. *Turning Method Shilling, Ford Museum, section Linnov, 1025-1030 N. Hwy*

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D'USO

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS
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NEW LEADERS
SAVING OF THE SEAS
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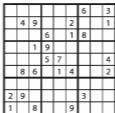


⊗ CALCOKU

BY JOSH REYNOLDS

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

For the calcudoku the numbers 1-9 only once in each row and column. The numbers in the leading outlined "cage" must sum to 10 (numbers in the last column using the arithmetic operator are indicated). A one-number should be filled in with the target number in the top corner. A number can be repeated within a cage as long as it is not the same column.



⊗ SUDOKU

BY JOSH REYNOLDS

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row, column, each column block, and each 3x3 grid square contains a set of the numbers one to nine. The same numbers cannot be repeated in a row or column.

★ = MODERATE ★★ = CHALLENGING ★★★ = HARD BOY! — FIND ANSWERS & CROSSWORD IN THE CLASSIFIEDS SECTION

OGG'S WORLD

Doug Dee



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